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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1505)

Name of Candidate	R. Jaya Simha Reddy		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	714260
Center	online	Date	6th Nov, 2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1(a)	10	
1(b)	10	
2(a)	10	
2(b)	10	
3(a)	10	
3(b)	10	
4(a)	10	
4(b)	10	
5(a)	10	
5(b)	10	
6(a)	10	
6(b)	10	
6(c)	10	
7	20	
8	20	
9	20	
10	20	
11	20	
12	20	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

Signature of Examiner

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWELVE** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बारह प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

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SECTION – A

1. (a) Open Government Data (OGD) can be seen as a step towards greater transparency and accountability in India. In this context, discuss the benefits of OGD and the challenges which lie therein. **(150 words) 10**

ओपन सरकारी डेटा (OGD) को भारत में अधिक से अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की दिशा में एक कदम के रूप में देखा जा सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, OGD के लाभों और उसमें निहित चुनौतियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

Open Government Data (OGD) implies free access to government data pertaining to government schemes, beneficiaries, etc.

Benefits of OGD :-

① Transparency : Free flow of information between government and public (Ex :- Data.gov.in portal)

② Accountability : Government officials become more responsible due to public scrutiny (Ex :- RTI unearthed Adarsh housing scam)

③ It leads to informed citizenry

④ It can help in evidence-based policy making.

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⑤ It leads to reduction in red-tapism and corruption

⑥ It results in improved investor confidence in economy

Challenges in OGD :-

① Interoperability of data between various government departments.

② Lack of sufficient IT infrastructure and skilled manpower in govt departments

③ Use value of data

④ Chances of misuse of data (Ex:- Bogus claiming of govt schemes)

⑤ Low demand and public awareness

As 2nd ARC recommended, government should come up with 'national Information strategy', which will help in easy adoption of OGD.

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1. (b) "While corruption is never good, not all forms of corruption are equally bad for the economy, nor do they cause the same kind of harm." Critically analyse the statement in the context of India. (150 words) 10

यद्यपि भ्रष्टाचार कभी अच्छा नहीं होता है, तथापि सभी प्रकार के भ्रष्टाचार अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए समान रूप से बुरे भी नहीं होते हैं, न ही वे समान क्षति पहुंचाते हैं। भारत के संदर्भ में, इस कथन का समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Corruption is the abuse of power for monetary gains. India ranks at 86th in TI corruption perception index.

Corruption is never good because:-

1. It leads to injustice to poor
2. It results in crisis of conscience
3. It erodes public trust in government
4. It creates bad work culture
5. It erodes probity in administration

However, some argue that not all forms of corruption are bad for economy. such as:-

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↳ A company bribing officials for faster granting of clearance
↓ leads to
more jobs → economic growth.

Moreover, ~~there~~ ~~can~~ not all forms of corruption cause same harm:-

↳ Charging ₹1000 for driving license from a business man (vs) daily wage earner.

However, such a view is wrong. It is because, any form of corruption is morally reprehensible. It creates a domino effect and will not let civil servant discharge his duty impartially.

Therefore corruption, in any form, must be condemned (Gandhiji)

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2. (a) Probity in governance is an essential and vital requirement for an efficient and effective system of governance and for socio-economic development. Discuss. Also, state ways to enhance probity in governance. (150 words) 10

शासन व्यवस्था में ईमानदारी (प्रोबिटी) एक कुशल एवं प्रभावी शासन प्रणाली तथा सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास के लिए एक अनिवार्य और महत्वपूर्ण आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, शासन व्यवस्था में ईमानदारी बढ़ाने के तरीकों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Probity is the quality of adherence to highest moral standards and integrity in public and private life

Probity is essential for efficient and effective governance because:-

① It acts as a check on misuse of power.

② Prevention of corruption and effective utilisation of public resources

(Ex:- CAG report on 2G scam - ₹ 1.76 lakh crore loss to exchequer)

③ It contributes to enhanced social capital & increased public trust in governance → people more willing to cooperate with government

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(4) Probity is a prerequisite for values like objectivity, transparency, accountability

(5) Officers displaying probity command respect & leadership → greater synergy among govt officials

Ways to enhance probity in governance :-

(1) Value education since childhood times

(2) Transformative leadership
(Ex :- Lal Bahadur shastri resigned as railway minister taking responsibility for an accident)

(3) Comprehensive code of ethics (2nd ARC)

(4) Improving transparency and accountability - e governance, RTI, CVC, Lokpal, etc

(5) Decentralization & public participation
(Ex :- Through citizen's charters).

For a developing country like India, Probity becomes even more important.

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2. (b) Highlighting the importance of whistle-blowing in an organisation, discuss the systemic factors that determine whether a person would become a whistle-blower. (150 words) 10

किसी संगठन में व्हिसल-ब्लोइंग के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, उन प्रणालीगत कारकों की विवेचना कीजिए जो यह निर्धारित करते हैं कि कोई व्यक्ति सूचना-प्रदाता (व्हिसल-ब्लोवर) बनेगा या नहीं।

Whistle-blowing means leaking information pertaining to a wrong doing to higher authorities within an organization (or outside agencies like media.

For example, Edward Snowden indulged in whistle-blowing with respect to secret spying by US intelligence agencies

Importance of whistle blowing :-

① It brings into light any acts of corruption (or abuse of authority

② It acts as a deterrent

③ It enforces accountability among employees and higher authorities.

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④ External whistleblowing keeps citizens informed about illegal activities by government authorities.

Factors that determine whether a person becomes a whistle blower :-

↳ When the grievance raised by the person are not heeded to by his immediate bosses

↳ When the consequences of the unethical act outweighs his personal well being.

↳ When public interest is at stake

All the above factors are taken into account by whistleblowers.

Whistleblowers act in India protect ethical whistleblowers from any kind of harrassment

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3. What do each of the following quotations mean to you?
निम्नलिखित में से प्रत्येक उद्धरण का आपके लिए क्या अर्थ है?
(a) "Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." - Albert Einstein
(150 words) 10
"सफल व्यक्ति बनने का प्रयास मत कीजिए, बल्कि सिद्धांतों वाला व्यक्ति बनने का प्रयास कीजिए।" - अल्बर्ट आइंस्टीन

The above quote emphasizes the importance to put values first than material goals such as success.

Albert Einstein, despite being the most successful scientist has not left his values and consistently practised it. He symbolized Gandhian notion of 'Science without humanity' is a sin.

In the contemporary materialistic world, human values have taken back stage in the pursuit of money, fame and power. The consequences of such exclusive focus on success are visible such as - man cheating in

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exams (recent NEET racket), compromising on means to achieve success - money and muscle power in elections.

If values are ignored in pursuit of success, it may lead to destruction of humanity. For example, all countries are focused only on economic growth, ignoring the damage to environment caused by emissions.

Therefore, children, since childhood must be taught the importance of values. This can be achieved through value-based education, as envisaged in NEP 2020

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3. (b) "Facts are many, but the truth is one." - Rabindranath Tagore

(150 words) 10

"तथ्य कई हैं, पर सत्य एक है।" - रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर

The statement communicates the importance of the realization of truth amidst the plenty of facts that try to distort the truth.

Rabindranath Tagore, in his Gitanjali, wrote about the importance of a truthful and purposeful life. According to him only the real truth can make humans realize and appreciate the value of their life and those surrounding.

In the contemporary world, Rabindranath Tagore's words hold even more salience. With the digital revolution, fake news has become a pervasive problem. According to an MIT study,

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fake news travel six times faster. They are responsible for fuelling hatred, racism and discrimination (Ex:- crimes against North Eastern people in Bangalore).

Hence, truth alone can solve the present day challenges faced by society - such as communalism, mob violence, etc. Even Indian constitution calls for 'scientific temper' (Article 51A)

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4. (a) Analyze the significance of appointing ethics officers in the light of strengthening corporate governance in India. (150 words) 10

भारत में कॉर्पोरेट शासन को मजबूत करने के आलोक में एथिक्स ऑफिसर्स (नैतिकता अधिकारियों) की नियुक्ति के महत्व का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

According to 2nd ARC, no organization can sustain for long without embracing ethics. Ethics officer can help in enforcing ethics in an organisations

Corporate governance includes norms, rules and relationships between management & employees which plays a key role in success of an organisations

Significance of appointing ethics officers:-

① Organisational ethics can better translate into behaviour of employees

② Overall corporate governance will become more ethical.

③ It will result in ethical business practices

(Ex :- Lack of ethics → Patanjali

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tried to encash public fears by selling 'CORONIL' as cure for corona).

④ It will improve customer confidence in the business

⑤ Improvement in work culture

⑥ Enhancement of social capital, coordination among employees, job satisfaction, and motivation to work hard.

Thus, ethics officer can significantly contribute to strengthening corporate governance.

However, subjective nature of ethics poses certain challenges for ethical officers in ensuring ethical conduct of employees.

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4. **(b)** Transparent governance promises an accountable state but a balance has to be achieved between disclosure requirements and administrative privileges for efficient governance. Discuss. **(150 words) 10**

पारदर्शी शासन एक जवाबदेह राज्य का भरोसा दिलाता है, लेकिन कुशल शासन व्यवस्था के लिए प्रकटीकरण आवश्यकताओं और प्रशासनिक विशेषाधिकारों के बीच संतुलन बनाए रखने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Transparent governance implies level of openness and accessibility to information pertaining to decision making structures and administrative processes.

Transparency promises accountability:

① Reduces Red-tapism & corruption

② Enables public scrutiny
(Ex:- Rajasthan based MKSS's role in ensuring reach of MGNREGA)

③ Brings probity in governance

④ Enables public-participation in governance

⑤ Makes it easier for independent agencies like CAG, CVC to perform their job.

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However, a balance has to be achieved between transparency & administrative previliges because:-

① Protection of sensitive information (Ex :- Defence deals) → national security

② Misuse of transparency tools like RTI Over burdening of administration

③ Excessive transparency may instill fear among bureaucrats to take risky decisions

④ May cause delays, if mechanisms to ensure transparency are not efficient

Therefore, 2nd ARC recommended as 'national Information Strategy' that balance concerns of transparency and secrecy to realize good governance.

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5. (a) Citizen empowerment is a natural outcome of a Citizen Charter. Critically evaluate in the Indian context. (150 words) 10

नागरिक सशक्तीकरण सिटीजन चार्टर का एक स्वाभाविक परिणाम है। भारतीय संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

Citizen's Charter is a document outlining standards of service delivery to citizens

- vision & mission
- Services
- Standards expected
- Grievance redressal
- Expectation from client

Fig:- Sample citizen charter

Citizen charter & citizen empowerment :-

① It will make citizens aware of their rights

(Ex:- Taxpayer's charter - rights of taxpayers)

② It will enable citizens hold service provider accountable for poor/non-delivery of services

③ Lead to citizen-participation in governance

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④ It will facilitate constant improvement in service delivery

⑤ It will bring in transparency and objectivity in service delivery

(Ex :- Services cannot be rejected on grounds of caste / religion, etc.)

Therefore, 2nd ARC also recommended citizen's charter as a key tool in citizen-centric governance.

However, certain challenges remain

① Poorly prepared charters - design & content

② Lack of consultation with all stake holders (Ex :- Senior citizens)

③ Charters are rarely updated

④ Poor capality building of officials

⑤ Low awareness among citizens

Therefore, to realize maximum benefits, above challenges must be addressed

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5. **(b)** Discretionary power by itself is not pure evil but gives much room for misuse. Discuss in the context of administration in India. **(150 words) 10**

विवेकाधीन शक्ति अपने आप में कोई बुराई नहीं है, लेकिन यह दुरुपयोग की अत्यधिक संभावना उत्पन्न करती है। भारत में प्रशासन के संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए।

Discretionary power in administration is a double-edged sword. It is not necessarily evil, but depends on the administrators.

Discretionary power - room for misuse :-

① It may lead to abuse of power (Ex :- 2G scam, coal block scam - discretionary auctioning)

② It may lead to injustice (Ex :- Denial of service)

③ Favoritism & nepotism may occur (Ex :- In supreme court appointments, several studies observed nepotism)

④ It may go against rule of law and objectivity.

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Advantages with Discretionary power :-

① Fast-track processes such as grant of clearance

② It can avoid injustice
(Ex:- Jharkhand starvation case → rigid rules → poor child denied ration)

③ It will motivate bureaucrats to come up with out-of-box thinking

④ Parliament, due its size and limited time, cannot legislate on all aspects of law. Discretionary power help in bridging gap
(Ex:- IT act 2000 → IT rules)

Even Economic survey 2021 noted that problem with administration in India is not discretion, but over-regulation. Hence, suitable discretionary power along with ethical training is need of hour.

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6. (a) Emotional Intelligence is an important trait to imbibe in a highly competitive and achievement-oriented environment. Elucidate.

(150 words) 10

भावनात्मक बुद्धिमत्ता एक अत्यधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी और उपलब्धि-उन्मुख परिवेश में आत्मसात किया जाने वाला एक महत्वपूर्ण गुण है। विशदीकरण कीजिए।

Emotional Intelligence (EI) is the ability to understand and manage one's own emotions as well as that of others. According to Daniel Goleman, 80% of success is due to EI.

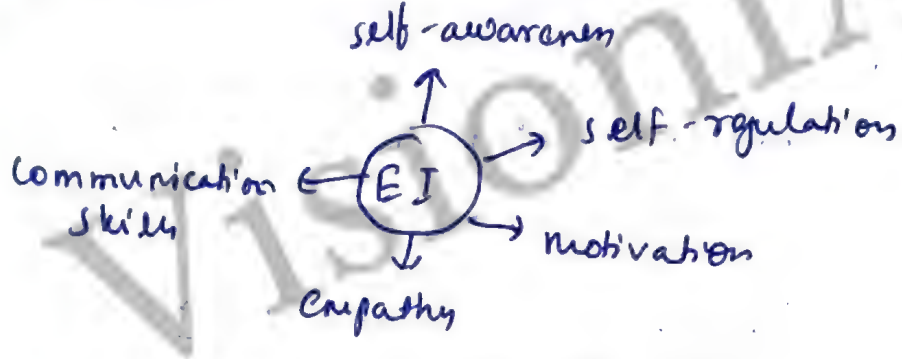

Fig: Components of EI

Importance in a highly competitive environment:-

① To manage disruptive emotions such as anger, fear, frustration that will pull down one's capacities.

② To channelize emotional energies onto the problem.

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③ To keep oneself motivated throughout the journey

④ To inspire others and show leadership skills.

⑤ To improve cohesion & motivation of the group while tackling an issue

⑥ To manage stress and bring out one's best
(Ex :- P.V Sindhu during Bronze-medal match)

Thus, EI plays a critical role in success in a highly competitive, achievement oriented environment.

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6. (b) Emotional Intelligence is an essential ingredient for successful implementation of pandemic induced emergency response. Comment in the light of COVID-19 pandemic. (150 words) 10

भावनात्मक बुद्धिमत्ता महामारी जनित आपातकालीन अनुक्रिया के सफल कार्यान्वयन हेतु एक अनिवार्य घटक है। कोविड-19 महामारी के आलोक में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Covid-19 pandemic posed multitude of challenges, such as health, social, economic, to decision-makers, frontline workers and common public. In such complex situations, EI acts as critical driver of success.

Successful ingredient of pandemic induced emergency response:-

For decision makers

① Balancing competing demands of saving lives & livelihoods

② Taking into account interests of various stakeholders (Ex- vaccine pricing) → Public, makers

For law enforcement

③ Managing pressures from family

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while doing public duty

(4) Plight of poor migrant workers (VI)

Duty to enforce lockdown

For Migrant workers

(5) Managing fear of loss of loved ones, fear of livelihood, and emotions of hunger, deprivation

For frontline workers

(6) Prioritising public service over personal health & health of family members.

Thus, covid pandemic compelled people to maximum extent in tapping into their E.I. Certain instances such as ~~Tap~~ video of Tripura DM slapping wedding priest were also noticed where officer succumbed to emotional outburst

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6. **(c)** Enumerate the decisive factors behind moral attitude. Also, discuss any incident from your life wherein you brought about a change in someone's attitude around an important social issue. **(150 words) 10**

नैतिक अभिवृत्ति के लिए उत्तरदायी निर्णायक कारकों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। साथ ही, अपने जीवन की ऐसी किसी भी घटना की विवेचना कीजिए जिसमें आप किसी महत्वपूर्ण सामाजिक मुद्दे पर किसी व्यक्ति की अभिवृत्ति में परिवर्तन लाने में सफल हुए थे।

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SECTION – B

In the following questions, carefully study the cases presented and then answer the questions that follow (in around 250 words):

7. You are a single mother and work as a school counsellor for the psychological well-being of primary and secondary school children at a reputed school. Recently, you have found through your interactions that several students have been facing emotional trauma and mental health issues. Realising the gravity of the situation you want to discuss this with the school authorities and the board of trustees and come up with an advanced plan that can help parents get better involved. However, during the meeting, concerns are raised regarding your findings and the lack of supporting evidence is also cited by some. Moreover, senior members who are present express a sense of displeasure at what this might mean for the reputation of the school.

You are thoroughly appalled with this approach of the school authorities, yet you are mired down in your own financial circumstances.

On the basis of the above situation, answer the following:

(a) Identify the most relevant stakeholders in the case.

(b) What are the dilemmas in the case?

(c) Discuss how stigmatisation of mental health issues can be addressed in schools.

(20)

आप एक अकेली माँ हैं और एक प्रतिष्ठित स्कूल में प्राथमिक एवं माध्यमिक कक्षाओं के बच्चों के मनोवैज्ञानिक कुशलक्षेम के लिए स्कूल काउंसलर के तौर पर काम करती हैं। हाल ही में, आपने अपनी बातचीत के माध्यम से पाया कि कई छात्र भावनात्मक आघात और मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के मुद्दों का सामना कर रहे हैं। स्थिति की गंभीरता को समझते हुए आप स्कूल के अधिकारियों और न्यासी बोर्ड के साथ इस पर चर्चा करना और एक उन्नत योजना तैयार करना चाहती हैं जिससे माता-पिता को बेहतर तरीके से शामिल होने में मदद मिल सके। हालांकि, बैठक के दौरान, आपके निष्कर्षों के संबंध में चिंताएँ व्यक्त की जाती हैं और कुछ लोगों द्वारा समर्थनकारी साक्ष्यों के अभाव का भी हवाला दिया जाता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, मौजूद वरिष्ठ सदस्य इस बात पर नाराजगी व्यक्त करते हैं कि इसका स्कूल की प्रतिष्ठा पर प्रभाव पड़ सकता है।

आप स्कूल के अधिकारियों के इस दृष्टिकोण से पूरी तरह से हतप्रभ हैं, मगर आप अपनी वित्तीय परिस्थितियों में फंसी हुई हैं।

उपर्युक्त स्थिति के आधार पर, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) इस प्रकरण में सर्वाधिक प्रासंगिक हितधारकों की पहचान कीजिए।

(b) इस प्रकरण में कौन-सी दुविधाएँ हैं?

(c) चर्चा कीजिए कि स्कूलों में मानसिक स्वास्थ्य के कलंकीकरण मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है।

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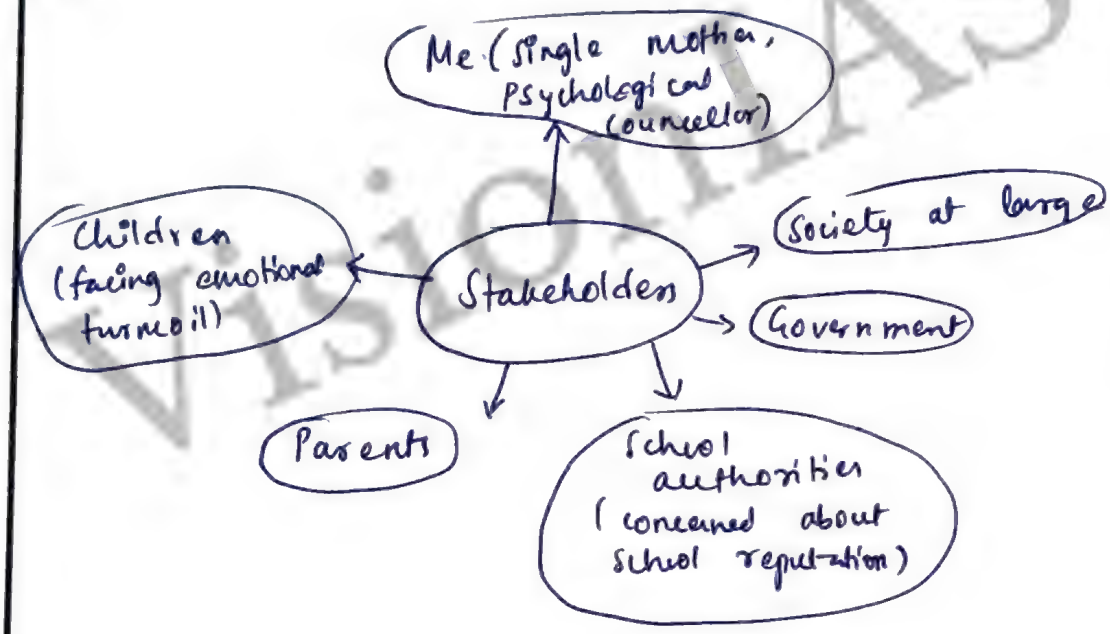
The case highlights one of the severe challenges faced by youth in modern times - mental health issues. Despite having severe psychological & social consequences, mental health is often neglected.

(a)



(b) Dilemmas involved are :-

For me :-

① My financial position compelles me to work in the school, but school is

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not serious about the concern I raised.

② My personal well-being (vs) well-being of children

③ Being truthful to my duty (vs) being loyal to the school

For school authorities :-

④ Chance of bad reputation for school

⑤ Ignoring the problem & making profits (vs) addressing the problem of mental illness

For parents :-

⑥ Children holistic development (vs) success in this competitive world

⑦ Their role in mental & emotional well-being of their children

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For students :-

(8) Fear of getting discriminated for opening up about mental health issues

(9) Focus on studies (vs) focus on other aspects of well being too (Ex: Emotional intelligence)

(c) Ways to address stigmatisation of mental health issues :-

→ Teachers must be open and willing to discuss mental health issues.

→ School authorities must re-design curriculum to reduce burden on children and make learning enjoyable experience (Ex :- Delhi govt's happiness curriculum)

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→ In classrooms, open debates on themes of 'mental health' must be conducted and students should be encouraged to freely share their issues

→ Fun activities like dance, sports, etc. must be made integral part of daily routine

→ Frequent parent-teacher-child meetings to keep parents informed about their child's overall well-being

For India to reap demographic advantage, it is important that our children are emotionally intelligent. Only then they can realize their true potential.

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8. You are an IPS officer on your first posting in a very poor and isolated rural area of one of the most backward states of the country. In your office complex, of which you are the incharge, there is a frequent sewage related problem, causing inconvenience to the employees in your office complex and severely affecting the efficiency of the workplace. It might also lead to health disorders and diseases such as cholera, diarrhoea etc.

To resolve it, the cleaning workers are made to do manual scavenging work without due regards to their safety. Most of these workers are from marginalised castes and are discriminated against socially. You are aware of the laws banning manual scavenging and the loopholes around it. In this context, answer the following questions:

(a) What are the issues which you need to address in this situation?

(b) Present your course of action to deal with the given situation.

(20)

आप एक IPS अधिकारी हैं। देश के सबसे पिछड़े राज्यों में से एक राज्य के एक बहुत ही निर्धन और अलग-थलग ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में आपकी पहली तैनाती होती है। आपके कार्यालय परिसर में, जिसके आप प्रभारी हैं, अक्सर सीवेज से संबंधित समस्या उत्पन्न होती है, जिससे आपके कार्यालय परिसर के कर्मचारियों को असुविधा होती है और कार्यस्थल की दक्षता भी बुरी तरह से प्रभावित होती है। इससे स्वास्थ्य विकार और हैजा, दस्त आदि जैसी बीमारियां भी पैदा हो सकती हैं।

इस स्थिति का समाधान करने के लिए, सफाई कर्मियों से उनकी सुरक्षा का उचित ध्यान रखे बिना मैनुअल स्कैवेंजिंग (हाथ से मैला ढोने) का कार्य कराया जाता है। इनमें से अधिकतर श्रमिक हाशिए पर रहने वाली जातियों के हैं और उनके साथ सामाजिक रूप से भेदभाव किया जाता है। आप मैनुअल स्कैवेंजिंग को प्रतिबंधित करने वाले कानूनों और उनमें निहित कमियों से अवगत हैं। इस संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) वे कौन से मुद्दे हैं जिन्हें आपको इस स्थिति में समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है?

(b) दी गई स्थिति से निपटने के लिए अपनी कार्रवाई का विवरण प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

According to an NGO - 'Safai karamchari Andolan', despite manual scavenging being made illegal in India, there exists more than 5 lakh manual scavengers in India.

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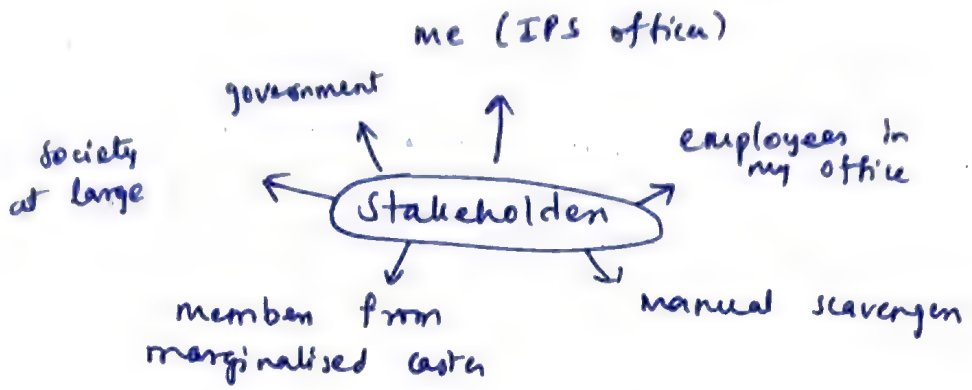

(a) Issues to be addressed :-

→ Ensuring a neat & healthy workplace for employees

→ Presence of manual scavenger, despite law against manual scavenging

→ Presence of discrimination against manual scavenger (against Article 14, 17)

→ My values of empathy & compassion as an IPS office

→ Injustice to manual scavenger who weren't provided adequate safety

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→ Violation of Immanuel kant's Categorial Imperative :→ no man ought to be treated as means to some one's ends

(b) Course of action :-

↳ I will immediately order to stop manual scavenging

↳ I will write to the municipal administration of the district to fix the sewage problem.

↳ Using the discretionary amount under my control, I will make arrangements for upgradation of toilets and procurement of mechanised cleaning equipment.

↳ I will arrange for training of

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manual scavengers to operate the mechanical equipment. This way, they will not lose their jobs, and can also live with dignity.

↳ I will instruct all police stations under my jurisdiction to strictly keep vigil on manual scavenging and spread awareness about laws banning them.

↳ I will ensure that cases pertaining to untouchability & discrimination are dealt with strictly as per provisions of SC/ST atrocities act, 1989

This way, my action will be guided by the ideal of 'inviolability of human dignity'

VisionIAS

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VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. You have recently been posted as a District Development Officer in a traditionally rural area that has seen rapid economic development in the past few years. You notice that there is a huge disparity between the number of male and female children in the area. When you go to the hospital and check the birth registry, you realise that registered new-born babies are mostly males. On further investigation, you notice a similar pattern in the village primary school, which has more male students than females.

When you raise the issue with your colleagues, they ignore it and carry on with their work. You suspect that the practice of female foeticide may be entrenched in the area as you had read about the issue in the context of this state while studying for the Civil Services Examination. It seems to you that respected members of the community like doctors, politicians and government officials have chosen to ignore the issue, given the prevalence of patriarchy and mind-set of voters in the area. Thus, despite rapid economic development, preference for male child continues to persist.

Based on the information above, answer the following:

(a) Do you have any ethical duty in this scenario? Justify your views.

(b) What would be your next steps and why? **(20)**

हाल ही में आपको एक पारंपरिक ग्रामीण क्षेत्र में एक जिला विकास अधिकारी के रूप में तैनात किया गया है। इस क्षेत्र में पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान तेजी से आर्थिक विकास हुआ है। आप पाते हैं कि उक्त क्षेत्र में बालक और बालिकाओं की संख्या में अत्यधिक असमानता विद्यमान है। आप अस्पताल जाकर जब जन्म की रजिस्ट्री की जाँच करते हैं, तो आप पाते हैं कि पंजीकृत नवजात शिशुओं में ज्यादातर बालक हैं। आगे जांच करने पर, आपको गांव के एक प्राथमिक स्कूल में भी ऐसा ही पैटर्न नज़र आता है जिसमें बालिकाओं की तुलना में बालक अधिक हैं।

जब आप अपने सहयोगियों के समक्ष यह मुद्दा उठाते हैं, तो वे इसकी अनदेखी कर अपना काम जारी रखते हैं। आपको संदेह है कि इस क्षेत्र में कन्या भ्रूण हत्या की प्रथा व्याप्त हो सकती है जैसा कि आपने सिविल सेवा की परीक्षा हेतु अध्ययन करते समय इस राज्य के संदर्भ में इस मुद्दे के बारे में पढ़ा था। आपको लगता है कि चिकित्सकों, राजनेताओं और सरकारी अधिकारियों जैसे समुदाय के सम्मानित सदस्यों ने पितृसत्तात्मकता की व्यापकता और इस क्षेत्र के मतदाताओं की मन:स्थिति को देखते हुए इस मुद्दे की अनदेखी की है। इस प्रकार, द्रुत आर्थिक विकास के बावजूद, बालकों के प्रति वरीयता जारी है।

उपर्युक्त जानकारी के आधार पर, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) क्या इस परिदृश्य में आपका कोई नैतिक कर्त्तव्य है? अपने विचारों का औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।

(b) आपका अगला कदम क्या होगा और क्यों?

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The case brings to notice the crime of female infanticide that exists in India. Between 2001 and 2011, the number of girls under six years reduced from 45 million to 42 million in India (UNDP)

Ethical issues involved in the case:-

1. Patriarchal mindset
2. Female child being denied right to life (Article 21)
3. Dereliction of duty by doctors, govt officials & politicians
4. Injustice to girls
5. Against constitutional values of equality

VisionIAS

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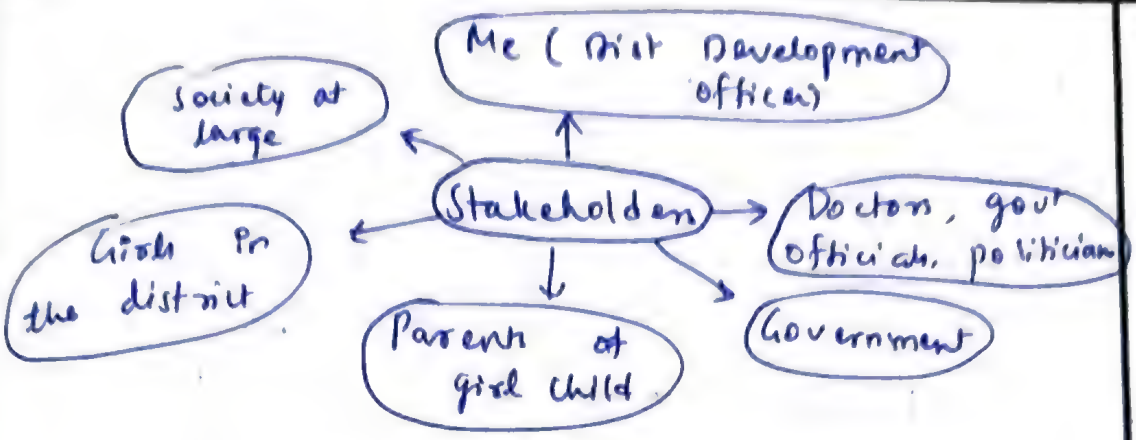

(a) Do I have an ethical duty :-

Yes. Because,

↳ As a public servant, I must be committed to public service values of honesty, equality, impartiality, and justice

↳ It is my duty that my actions have to be fair & just.

↳ As a responsible citizen & government representative, I must help government in implementing laws like PNPDT act,

↳ If I fail to act (or) remain

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silent on the issue, it leads to inner disonance and crisis of conscience.

↳ As District Development officer (DDO), I must perform my job of implementing 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' with sincerety

(b) My next steps :-

↳ Since the government officials in the district are ignorant, I will take up the issue with higher authority (state women development commissioner)

↳ As DDO, I will come up with a plan to bring awareness on laws against female infanticide.

↳ I will partner with NGOs in

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the district (like Bachpan Bachao Andolan) to persuade parents of girl child to keep their child.

↳ Government schemes which benefit parents of girl child, like Matru Vandana Yojana will be promoted.

↳ I will popularise the example of a village in Uttarakhand which celebrates the birth of a girl child - to bring about Attitude change.

It is said that

"Yatra Naryastu Pujyayante, Ramante Tatra Devtam" (where women are worshipped, divinity blossoms)

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10. Party X has a clear majority in the Lok Sabha. However, because of it falling short of majority in the Rajya Sabha, a large number of its bills are getting stalled in the Upper House. Elections of a key state are around the corner and the party desperately needs to win, for it to secure a majority in the Rajya Sabha. As part of its campaign strategy, the social media head of the party suggests an insidious strategy to make electoral gains. A part of the strategy involves sending out questionnaires online and promoting them using ads. The response filled by people to these online questionnaires will help reveal their key personality traits to the social media team of the party. These behavioral science insights would be important in helping candidates tailor their campaign messages according to the recipient's personality traits. However, because the content of the questionnaire is incendiary and polarizing, the social media team decides to use fake accounts to administer data collection on social media platforms to avoid getting penalised. In addition, the strategy also involves sending out provocative content through online ads and fake news reports. This goes against the spirit of free and fair elections and violates the Election Commission guidelines on multiple levels.

As one of the key members of the social media team of the party, you have been entrusted with carrying out this campaign successfully.

(a) What are the key ethical issues involved in this case.

(b) What is the course of action you would take? Give reasons for your response in a situation like this? **(20)**

लोक सभा में एक राजनीतिक दल X का स्पष्ट बहुमत है। हालांकि, राज्य सभा में बहुमत की कमी के कारण उच्च सदन में बड़ी संख्या में इस दल के विधेयक अवरुद्ध होते जा रहे हैं। एक प्रमुख राज्य में चुनाव होने वाले हैं और राज्य सभा में बहुमत जुटाने के लिए इस दल के लिए जीतना अत्यंत आवश्यक है। अपनी अभियान की रणनीति के हिस्से के रूप में, दल के सोशल मीडिया प्रमुख चुनावी लाभ प्राप्त करने के लिए कपटी रणनीति का सुझाव देते हैं। इस रणनीति का एक भाग ऑनलाइन प्रश्नावली भेजना और विज्ञापनों का उपयोग करके उन्हें बढ़ावा देना है। इन ऑनलाइन प्रश्नावलियों के लिए लोगों द्वारा दिए गए जवाब, राजनीतिक दल की सोशल मीडिया टीम के समक्ष लोगों के व्यक्तित्व के प्रमुख लक्षणों को प्रकट कर देंगे। व्यवहारात्मक विज्ञान की ये अंतर्दृष्टियाँ (सूक्ष्म दृष्टि), संदेश प्राप्तकर्ता के व्यक्तित्व के लक्षणों के अनुसार उम्मीदवारों को अपने चुनाव अभियान का संदेश/रूपरेखा तैयार करने हेतु सहायता करने में महत्वपूर्ण होंगी। चूंकि, प्रश्नावली की विषय-वस्तु उत्तेजक और ध्रुवीकरण करने वाली है, इसलिए सोशल मीडिया टीम दंडित होने से बचने के लिए सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म्स पर डेटा संग्रह प्रशासन के लिए नकली खातों का उपयोग करने का निर्णय लेती है। इसके अतिरिक्त, इस रणनीति में ऑनलाइन विज्ञापनों और फर्जी समाचार रिपोर्टों के माध्यम से उत्तेजक सामग्री भेजना भी शामिल है। यह स्वतंत्र और निष्पक्ष चुनाव की भावना के विरूद्ध है और कई स्तरों पर निर्वाचन आयोग के दिशा-निर्देशों का उल्लंघन करता है।

दल की सोशल मीडिया टीम का एक प्रमुख सदस्य होने के नाते, आपको सफलतापूर्वक यह अभियान चलाने का उत्तरदायित्व सौंपा गया है।

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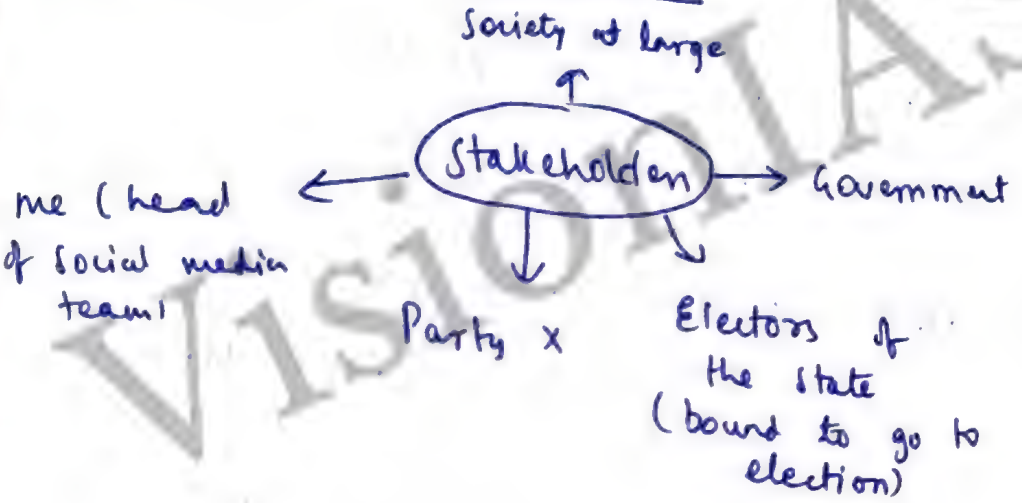
(a) इस प्रकरण में सम्मिलित प्रमुख नैतिक मुद्दे क्या हैं?
(b) आपके द्वारा की जाने वाली कार्रवाई क्या होगी? इस तरह की स्थिति में अपनी अनुक्रिया के कारण बताएं?

The case presents the example of how social media can be manipulated / misused to attain electoral gains. Similar incident took place in Cambridge analytica case



(a)

Ethical issues involved are :-

① My personal integrity (vs) my responsibility to ensure victory of Party X

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② Means vs Ends dilemma

③ Free and fair elections at the bedrock of democracy

④ Violation of right to privacy, which is a fundamental right (Puttaswamy verdict)

⑤ Party x, which is in power (law maker as law breaker)

⑥ Provocative content may lead to social tensions eroding social capital.

⑦ Right of voters to independently exercise their vote

⑧ Fake news - a threat to democracy

⑨ Difficulty for election commission to enforce guidelines in digital domain

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ न लिखें)

(b) My course of action :-

↳ As one of the key member of the social media team, I will persuade other using my persuasion skills that such a strategy is unethical

↳ I will also highlight that it is illegal, and in case of any future inquiry, party x reputation will be at stake

↳ Instead of the present strategy, I will suggest them following strategy -

* To run social media campaign on the welfare schemes party has undertaken so far

* To broadcast testimonies of genuine beneficiaries of the scheme to give greater credibility.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

* To highlight why the state election is important to Party X by providing statistics of loss caused due to delay of bills in Rajyasabha - This will target cognitive component of attitude

↳ However, if my party members do not agree and continue to proceed with the original plan, I will resign.

> "Let the lie come to this world, let it even rule the world, but not through me"
> - Greek saying

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. You are posted as the District Magistrate in a district, which has witnessed communal clashes in recent years. The lower court has given a verdict in favour of a person from the minority community who seeks demolition of a religious building situated in his personal property. The district administration has been instructed to fulfil this verdict. Despite the judicial verdict, there is some anger simmering in the people from the majority community regarding this verdict. Some groups have demonstrated protests against the verdict and publicly warned of serious consequences if the verdict is allowed to be implemented. Local politicians are also supporting them and are taking advantage of the situation for political gains. You have three days left to demolish the religious building as per the court's direction.

Given the situation, answer the following:

(a) Identify the stakeholders in the given situation and their respective interests.

(b) Highlight the options available to you and the course of action you will take, giving reasons for the same. **(20)**

आप हाल के वर्षों में सांप्रदायिक झड़पों के साक्षी रहे एक जिले में जिलाधिकारी के रूप में तैनात हैं। निचली अदालत ने अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय के एक व्यक्ति के पक्ष में निर्णय दिया है जो अपनी निजी संपत्ति में स्थित एक धार्मिक भवन गिराना चाहता है। जिला प्रशासन को यह निर्णय कार्यान्वित करने का निर्देश दिया गया है। न्यायिक निर्णय के बावजूद इस निर्णय के संबंध में बहुसंख्यक समुदाय के लोगों में अंदर ही अंदर कुछ गुस्सा है। कुछ समूहों ने इस निर्णय के विरूद्ध विरोध प्रदर्शन भी किया है और न्यायिक निर्णय को कार्यान्वित किए जाने पर सार्वजनिक रूप से गंभीर परिणामों की चेतावनी दी है। स्थानीय राजनेता भी उनका समर्थन कर रहे हैं और राजनीतिक लाभ के लिए इस स्थिति का फायदा उठा रहे हैं। अदालत के निर्देशानुसार धार्मिक भवन को गिराने के लिए आपके पास तीन दिन का समय बचा है।

इस स्थिति को देखते हुए, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) दी गई स्थिति में हितधारकों और उनके संबंधित हितों की पहचान कीजिए।

(b) आपके पास उपलब्ध विकल्पों और की जाने वाली कार्रवाई पर प्रकाश डालते हुए, ऐसी कार्रवाई के लिए उचित कारण भी बताइए।

The case presents a scenario where large communal clashes may occur if honorouble court's order is implemented.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Some ethical issues involved are:-

① Lack of religious tolerance among public

② Poor respect for court's order

③ Communal clashes may threaten 'social fabric'

④ Poor emotional intelligence and values of fraternity & brotherhood

(a) Stakeholders and respective interests :-

	Interests
(I) Me (District Magistrate)	→ Court's order is implemented in letter and spirit → Law and order is maintained
(II) Person (minority community)	→ To demolish religious building in his personal property

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(III) Majority community → To see that building is not demolished
→ To precipitate strikes & clashes in case of demolition

(IV) Politicians → To utilise the situation to gain political mileage.

(V) Police → Peace and law & order is maintained

(VI) Court → It's order are implemented & it's authority is upheld.

(b) Options available to me are:-

① To resign from the post

② To ask majority community members / politicians to stay court order in higher court

③ To implement court's order.

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Course of action, I will take:-

(2) : To implement court's order.

Reasons :-

↳ Court's order has force of law. As a civil servant, my duty is to protect & uphold law.

↳ I will also take following steps to ensure that communal clashes do not occurs-

* I will call for a meeting with representatives of majority community

* I will use my Emotional Intelligence and persuasion skills to explain the sanctity of court's order in democracy

* I will tell them that communal clashes impact law & order in the district and may also have complications

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beyond the district.

* I will ask them to constitutionally fight, if they've any grievance, such as approaching high court

* If they fail to listen to me, I will warn them of severe consequences for breaking law.

* For the next three days period, I will impose section 144 in the district and direct police to be on high alert, while proceeding with the demolition.

My action will be guided by 'Nishkamkarma' - do your duty without fearing consequences.

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12. You are the Superintendent of Police of a city where a large slum has developed in recent decades on the property of Indian Railways. The Indian Railways has prepared a plan for expansion of the city railway station for which they want to get the slums demolished. They have requested the assistance of local police for the same, however, the people residing in those slums have responded angrily to this step and have occupied the railway tracks, resisting any action by the officials. Slum dwellers are asking for a suitable rehabilitation, citing that the city is under the grip of a cold wave as the month of December is in progress. This has not only halted the railway traffic on the route causing immense hardships to railway passengers but also posing risk of violence between slum-dwellers and the police.

Given the situation

(a) Identify various issues involved in the case along with different stakeholders.

(b) What course of action would you follow to end this situation of confrontation and resume normal functioning of the Railways? **(20)**

आप एक शहर में पुलिस अधीक्षक हैं जहाँ हाल के दशकों में भारतीय रेलवे की संपत्ति पर एक बड़ी मलिन बस्ती (झुग्गी) विकसित हो गई है। भारतीय रेलवे ने शहर के रेलवे स्टेशन के विस्तार की योजना बनाई है, जिसके लिए वह झुग्गियों को ध्वस्त करवाना चाहती है। रेलवे ने इसके लिए स्थानीय पुलिस की सहायता का अनुरोध किया है, हालांकि इन मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोगों ने इस कदम पर गुस्से से प्रतिक्रिया दी है और अधिकारियों द्वारा किसी भी कार्रवाई का विरोध करते हुए रेलवे ट्रैक पर कब्जा कर लिया है। इन मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोग, यह हवाला देते हुए उपयुक्त पुनर्वास की मांग कर रहे हैं कि शहर शीतलहर की चपेट में है क्योंकि दिसंबर का महीना चल रहा है। इससे न केवल उक्त मार्ग पर रेल यातायात ठप हो गया है जिससे रेल यात्रियों को भारी परेशानियों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, बल्कि मलिन बस्तियों में रहने वाले लोगों और पुलिस के बीच हिंसा का खतरा भी उत्पन्न हो गया है।

इस स्थिति को देखते हुए-

(a) विभिन्न हितधारकों के साथ-साथ इस प्रकरण में शामिल विविध मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए।

(b) आप टकराव की इस स्थिति को समाप्त करने और रेलवे का सामान्य कामकाज फिर से शुरू करने के लिए क्या कार्रवाई करेंगे?

As an SP, the case presents me in a situation where I have to display my leadership and decision making skills to balance

Don't write anything this margin

Competing Interests of various Stakeholders

(a)

Various issues involved are :-

① Suitable rehabilitation to slum dwellers

② Being objective and vacating slum dwellers (vs) Being empathetic - cold conditions.

③ Non inclusive growth & unplanned urbanisation - large slums

④ Gandhi's Talisman - Impact of my

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actions on bottom rung people - slum dwellers in this case

⑤ Livelihood & shelter to slum dwellers - obligation of State (DPSP)

⑥ Right to protest of slumdwellers (vs) inconvenience to railway passengers

⑦ Threat of violence and breakdown of law & order in case of forceful eviction.

(b) My course of action :-

↳ I will ask the slum dwellers community to nominate a leader on their behalf

↳ I will clearly communicate to the leader that their occupation of Indian Railways land is illegal.

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↳ I will tell the leaders that soon or later they'll have to evacuate.

↳ I will request the local district development office to communicate to the slum dwellers about government housing schemes like PM-Awas yojana

↳ I will personally request the district administration that eligible slum dwellers are registered under schemes like Awas yojana, National Urban Livelihoods Mission.

↳ I will ask the Indian Railways authorities to temporarily postpone expansion plans by few months on humanitarian grounds, as severe cold conditions are prevailing outside

↳ I will communicate the same to the leader of the community &

Anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

slum dwellers community as whole.

Despite above efforts, if slum dwellers refuse to vacate, I will use force to get them vacated, in the larger social & economic interest

This way, my actions are guided by 'spirit of service' and the idea of 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' (development of all)

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1514)

Name of Candidate	R. Jaya Simha Reddy		
Medium Eng./Hindi	English	Registration Number	714260
Center	Online	Date	29/11/21

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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All the Best

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1. Highlighting the changes introduced by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) Amendment Act, 2021, analyse various issues with the amended Act. **(150 words) 10**

दिल्ली राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्यक्षेत्र शासन (GNCTD) संशोधन अधिनियम, 2021 द्वारा प्रारंभ किए गए परिवर्तनों को रेखांकित करते हुए, इस संशोधित अधिनियम से जुड़े विभिन्न मुद्दों का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Recently, Parliament passed GNCTD amendment act, 2021.

Changes introduced :-

① Definition of government : From now on government implies Lt. governor of Delhi and not council of ministers

② Any executive action by council of ministers requires prior sanction of lt. governor

③ Lt. governor must reserve bills for president's assent on matters incidental to those outside purview of state legislature (Land, Police, Law & order)

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(4) State legislature cannot make any rules inconsistent with that of parliament.

(5) Legislative committees cannot inquire into day to day functioning of executive

Issues :-

(1) Against SC judgement in GNCTD case (2018) as the amendment makes democratically elected Delhi govt subordinate to Lt. governor

(2) Legislature cannot hold executive accountable effectively as its committees cannot monitor performance of govt.

(3) Policy paralysis : since council of ministers require Lt. governor's approval for any action.

Thus, the amendment is seen as threat to cooperative federalism. It remains to be seen if it withstands judicial scrutiny

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2. Are there valid arguments for continuing with sedition law in 21st century democratic India? Discuss in light of the debate surrounding it. (150 words) 10

क्या 21वीं सदी के लोकतांत्रिक भारत में राजद्रोह कानून को जारी रखने के लिए वैध तर्क विद्यमान हैं? इससे संबंधित वाद-विवाद के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

Sec 124A of IPC (1870) deals with sedition. It defines sedition as any act that brings contempt or excites disaffection towards government.

Sedition
- → Non-bailable offence
- → Punishment includes life-term
- → Ban from govt job.

Arguments in favour of sedition :-

① To curb secessionist & anti-national tendencies.

② To protect law & order in insurgency hit areas where insurgents openly call for armed overthrow of govt.

③ Political stability : To protect state

from attempts of violent overthrow

④ Right to freedom of speech is not an absolute right (reasonable restrictions)

⑤ Other organs too have similar powers (Judiciary → contempt ; Legislature breach of privileges)

Arguments against :-

① Tool to muzzle freedom of speech (Ex:- Karnataka govt → against school children for anti-CAA play)

② Vague meaning of 'disaffection' make law prone to misuse

③ It results in pren censorship

④ International experience : states like UK have repealed the law.

Therefore, state must balance security concerns with citizen liberties. Safeguards provided by SC in Kedarnath Singh judgement (1973) must be adhered to.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

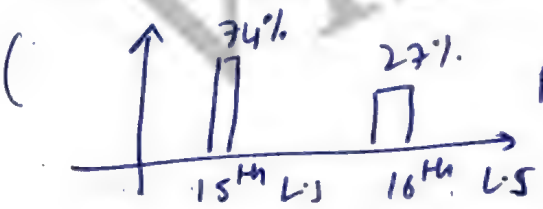
3. Identify the issues that have contributed to a decline in the performance of Parliamentary Standing Committees. How can these issues be addressed? **(150 words) 10**

उन मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए जिन्होंने संसदीय स्थायी समितियों के प्रदर्शन में गिरावट में योगदान दिया है। इन मुद्दों का समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है?

Parliamentary committees help parliament in effective discharge of its duty by facilitating in-depth scrutiny of bills. Example - Public accounts committee, Finance committee, etc

Issues that contributes to decline :-

① Less referral of bills to committees



PRS - bills referred to committees.

② Short tenure of 1 year of members prevents expertise development.

③ Lack of capacity building of MPs (Ex :- Laws on emerging technology like Cryptocurrency require sound technical knowledge)

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④ Partissanship : Member in the committee bring their political rivalry into discussions

⑤ Limited secretarial assistance to the committees (Ex:- Staff, resources, etc.)

⑥ Criminalisation of membership :
Share of MPs with criminal background increased from 24% (2004) to 43% (2019) - ADR

⑦ Growing complexity in law making

Since parliamentary committees are critical in parliamentary democracy, reforms such as:-

→ Capacity building of MPs

→ Mandatory referral of all bills (NCRWC)

Can be undertaken to improve their performance.

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4. Despite being a non-constitutional body, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has wielded immense decision-making power in India. Discuss the advantages and issues associated with it. **(150 words) 10**

एक गैर-संवैधानिक निकाय होने के बावजूद, प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय (PMO) के पास भारत में निर्णय-निर्माण की व्यापक शक्ति है। इससे संबद्ध लाभों और मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

In a parliamentary democracy, PM is the real executive head. PMO, which is chaired by PM wields immense decision-making power.

P.M	Cabinet Secretary
NSA	Principle Secretaries

Fig: members of PMO.

Immense decision-making power :-

① In agenda setting and policy guidance (PM instructions to cabinet)

② In security related matters, NSA emerged as most important institution

③ In monitoring program implementation (Ex :- PM through PRAGATI portal)

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Advantages :-

① It ensures that there is unified approach among all ministries

② Expertise of senior-most bureaucrats will help policy making

③ Facilitates quick-decision making

Challenges :-

① Centralization of power undermining Council of Ministers

② Non-elected & unaccountable secretaries & NSA undermine democratically elected ministers

Thus, PMO's involvement has both advantages & disadvantages. PM must ensure that collaborative and consultative approach in functioning of PMO.

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5. Discuss the role of data in governance in India. Also, state the various challenges in this regard and suggest remedial measures.

(150 words) 10

भारत में शासन में डेटा की भूमिका पर चर्चा कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में विद्यमान विभिन्न चुनौतियों का उल्लेख कीजिए एवं उपचारात्मक उपायों का सुझाव दीजिए।

Data is considered as new oil for its multitude of benefits.

Role in governance :-

① Informed policy making
(Ex:- Health insurance scheme based on data of morbidities among population)

② Identification of beneficiaries
(Ex:- Socio Economic Caste Census 2011)

③ Improving transparency & accountability in governance by openly sharing data.

④ Controlling problem of NPAs in banks
(Economic survey 2020 - PSB data analytics)

⑤ Tackling security challenges
(Ex:- Facial recognition data in Airports).

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ नहीं लिखें)

Challenges in this regard :-

① Data is prone to misuse raising concerns of surveillance

② Cybersecurity issues (India ranks 9th in Internet crimes report 2020)

③ Ensuring use-value of data

④ Lack of coordination between various ministries resulting in poor interoperability of data

Measures to address :-

① Data protection act to prevent data misuse

② Adopting common standards in data handling across all govt ministries

③ Greater synergy among bodies like CERT-In to minimise cyber threats.

④ Ensuring timely collection of critical data like PLFS, consumer expenditure survey

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

6. With specific examples, elaborate upon the conditions that led to the emergence of a new civil society in urban India in the last few decades. Also, highlight its contribution towards effecting governance and policy changes. **(150 words) 10**

विशिष्ट उदाहरणों के साथ, उन परिस्थितियों का विस्तारपूर्वक वर्णन कीजिए जिनके कारण पिछले कुछ दशकों में शहरी भारत में एक नए नागरिक समाज का उदय हुआ है। साथ ही, शासन और नीतिगत परिवर्तनों को प्रभावित करने में इसके योगदान पर प्रकाश डालिए।

Civil society implies the citizen space outside of govt and private sector, which includes NGOs, Pressure groups, etc

Condition that led to emergence of a new civil society in urban India

① Post LPG reforms 1991, Indian advocacy groups got strengthened with links with global organisations like Amnesty International.

② Internet facilitated sharing of information & ideas without boarder. (Ex:- Aarey Forest colony protest was influenced by global environment movement)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

③ Influence of media & social media on urban youth led to campaigns like Red Dot (women's menstrual hygiene)

④. Crowd-sourcing platforms like Ketto are allowing urban residents to contribute to rural development

Contribution towards effecting governance and policy changes :-

① New urban civil society was successful to large extent in building pressure on governments
(Ex:- Greater attention towards pollution in NCR)

② They are helping through survey in enabling informed policy making

Thus, new urban civil society holds significant importance in governance & policy making

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. The Gati Shakti mission has the potential to not only address the issue of infrastructure bottlenecks but also streamline the governance processes in the country. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

गति शक्ति मिशन में न केवल अवसंरचना संबंधी बाधाओं का समाधान करने की क्षमता है अपितु देश में शासन प्रक्रियाओं को सुव्यवस्थित करने की भी क्षमता विद्यमान है। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

The Gati shakti mission was launched with a view to overhaul governance processes for faster infrastructure creation.

Potential to address infrastructure bottlenecks :-

① It aims to accelerate implementation of NIP

② It can inspire confidence among private sector, which helps in attracting investments (India needs to invest $1.4 trillion in infrastructure by 2024 - Taskforce on NIP).

③ It can improve ease of doing business & facilitate infrastructure creation.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Streamline the governance processes :-

① The mission envisages a real-time dashboard to monitor implementation

② It promotes coordination between various ministries in planning & execution

(Ex:- It can eliminate
↓
Min of road - laying roads,
Min of Jalshakti - digging roads next day to lay water pipelines)

③ Instead of top-down approach, it follows a bottom-up approach giving greater scope to local bodies in monitoring & implementation of projects

Thus, Gati shakti is a much needed mission to solve infrastructure bottlenecks in India

VisionIAS

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8. Giving an account of the issues faced by workers in the informal sector, discuss whether the recently launched e-Shram portal can help in addressing them. **(150 words) 10**

अनौपचारिक क्षेत्रक में श्रमिकों द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली समस्याओं का विवरण देते हुए चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या हाल ही में प्रारंभ ई-श्रम पोर्टल उनका समाधान करने में सहायता कर सकता है।

Informal sector accounts for 90% workforce in India (PLFS 2019-20).

Various issues faced by informal workers:-

① Lack of social security such as medical insurance, unemployment allowance, etc

② Poor conditions of work (Ex:- MSME chemical factories)

③ No security of tenure. During pandemic, million of workers were fired

④ Low wages and gender discrimination in wages.

In this context, govt recently

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

launched e-shram portal to register all informal sector workers and issue them id cards.

It can help in following ways:-

① By providing real-time access to size of informal workforce and patterns of migration, it enables data-driven policy making

② Unique id-cards allows Union & state govt to implement targetted social security schemes.

③ Facilitating employer-employee matchmaking.

④ Regulating industries where these informal workers are employed.

Thus, e-shram portal offers promise to address issues of informal workers. It must be utilised very effectively

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. Clarifying the significance of the recent developments on the issue of global minimum tax, discuss its prospects and challenges for India.

(150 words) 10

वैश्विक न्यूनतम कर के मुद्दे के संदर्भ में हालिया घटनाक्रमों के महत्व को स्पष्ट करते हुए, भारत के लिए इसकी संभावनाओं और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Recently, G7 member agreed on a global minimum corporate tax of 15%.

Significance of the recent developments:-

① Consensus among key developed countries on need to ensure that corporate pay their fair share of taxes

② It can end destructive race to bottom (Avg corporate taxes have decreased from 34% (1990) to 17% (2019) - OECD).

③ It can reduce Base erosion and profit shifting by corporates.

④ It is a remarkable step in global taxation regime (WEF)

Don't write anything in this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Prospects for India :-

① It can help in India's tax revenue (currently, India lost $50 bn due to BEPS - Min of Finance)

② It can prevent money laundering via shell companies in tax haven countries like Mauritius
(Ex :- Pandora papers leaks).

③ It can improve attractiveness of India's economy as companies may have no incentive to move to tax haven countries once global minimum corporate tax is setup

Challenges for India :-

① Sovereignity : Determining tax rates is a sovereign power of a country.

② Developed - Developing countries gap may wider as large MNCs may relocate to their home countries.

Thus, India needs to actively participate in discussions on global minimum tax to ensure that its interests are protected.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. Announcement of the AUKUS security pact heralds a new era of global geo-politics. Comment. Also, discuss how it may affect India's interests.

(150 words) 10

AUKUS सुरक्षा समझौते की घोषणा ने वैश्विक भू-राजनीति के एक नए युग की शुरुआत की है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, चर्चा कीजिए कि यह भारत के हितों को कैसे प्रभावित कर सकता है।

AUKUS is a trilateral grouping of Australia, UK & USA to promote cooperation over sharing of nuclear submarine technology

Heralds a new era in global geo-politics :-

① Rise of minilaterals : AUKUS further gives impetus to growth of minilaterals like Quad, JAI, etc.

② Nuclear technology : Platform like AUKUS promote research & development of modern nuclear technology.

→ It may also amplify concern of nuclear proliferation

③ Indo-Pacific : AUKUS contributes to increase in importance of Indo-Pacific as major security theatre.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

④ It signals a shift towards maritime security from continental grand strategy until now.

⑤ It can act as a counter to China's BRI initiative under which it is acquiring military bases (Ex:- Duqm base).

India's interests :-

Positive	Negative
① Opens up scope for India too to undertake coalition building in Indo-Pacific	① It can sideline Quad, in which India has huge strategic interests
② India can enhance its security capabilities by participating in groupings like these	② It may go against the comprehensive nuclear disarmament that India advocates.

Thus, AUKUS heralds a new era in global geopolitics. It remains to be seen how countries react to it.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. Effective devolution of finances is an important requirement for Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to fulfill their objectives. Discuss while also elaborating on the reasons behind lack of financial resources for PRIs in India. **(250 words) 15**

पंचायती राज संस्थाओं (PRI) को अपने उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए वित्त का प्रभावी हस्तांतरण एक महत्वपूर्ण अनिवार्यता है। भारत में PRIs के लिए वित्तीय संसाधनों की कमी हेतु उत्तरदायी कारणों का वर्णन करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

The 73rd constitutional amendment act gave constitutional status to PRIs to enable them to effectively work as institutions of rural development

Objectives of PRIs :-

① 11th schedule to the constitution outlines some of the objectives like :-
- Drinking water & sanitation
- Poverty alleivation
- Implementation of welfare schemes

② To promote participatory democracy (Gramsabha)

③ Social justice through reservations for women & SC/ST

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

④ Rural development : PRIs play key role in formulating District Development plan.

Devolution of finances is important because:-

① It enables panchayats to provide public services
(Ex:- Road construction, community farming assets)

② It allows panchayats to undertake de-centralised planning & development

③ To achieve poverty alleviation by ensuring basic necessities - Food, shelter, health services

④ To enable them to function as autonomous constitutional bodies without depending on centre & states.

VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Reasons behind lack of financial resource :-

① Poor Internal resource generation
(Ex :- Reluctance to collect water charges)

② Lack of political will
(14th Finance commission - many states do not even table state finance commission reports in legislative houses)

③ Majority of grants are scheme-specific with minimum flexibility.

④ States themselves are glorified panchayats
(On average 26% of state revenue comes from centre).

The 15th Finance commission alloted 3.5 lakh crore to PRIs, which is 32% increase from 14th FC. This will address the problem of shortage of finance to large extent.

Don't write anything in margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

12. Judicial activism is a necessary tool to guard against "legislative adventurism and executive excesses". Critically discuss in the context of the doctrine of separation of powers as provided in the Constitution of India. (250 words) 15

"विधायी जोखिम और कार्यकारी अतिक्रमण" से रक्षा के लिए न्यायिक सक्रियता एक आवश्यक उपकरण है। भारत के संविधान में यथा प्रदत्त शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

Judicial activism is the proactive role played by judiciary in protecting citizen's rights by calling legislature & executive to perform their obligation.

Judiciary in India derives power of judicial activism through

→ Article 32 & 226 (Judicial review power to Supreme Court & High Court)

→ Article 142 - enables Supreme Court to pass any order to do complete justice.

VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Necessary guard against legislative adventurism :-

① To protect citizen's fundamental rights from legislative overreach.

(Ex:- 24th constitutional amendment empowered parliament to take away any fundamental right. But, SC in Kesavanada Bharati case (1973) → doctrine of basic structure)

② To protect federalism by ensuring that union government doesn't encroach into domain of states

(Ex:- Recently, scope of 97th const amendment, dealing with cooperatives (State list) was restricted).

Executive excesses :-

① To ensure accountability of executive to public and restrict misuse of law
(Ex:- Safeguards against sedition law in Kedarnath Singh judgement)

② To protect dignity and liberty of citizens
(Ex:- During Pandemic, High courts pulled executive over excesses against migrants)

However, judicial activism is criticised at times as it violates doctrine of separation of powers.

Therefore, Supreme Court must ensure that it exercises its power in reasonable manner so as to not result in Judicial tyranny

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

13. The electoral bond scheme is part of what appears to be a growing trend away from transparency and accountability in electoral funding. Critically analyse. (250 words) 15

चुनावी बॉण्ड योजना उस बढ़ती हुई प्रवृत्ति का भाग है जो चुनावी फंडिंग में पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही से दूर जाने की प्रतीत होती है। समालोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Electoral bonds scheme was introduced in budget 2018 under the pretext of increasing transparency and accountability of election funding.

Feature of electoral bond scheme :-

① No cash donations : Donations only through electoral bonds purchased from designated SBI outlets.

② Denomination of electoral bonds vary from ₹1000 to ₹1 crore.

③ Political parties must maintain account of electoral bonds received and must redeem them within 15 days.

It is expected to bring transparency and accountability in following ways:-

① Reduce role of black money, as bonds can be purchased only from banks.

② Banks maintain record of purchases of bonds

③ Funds received by political party is known to banks

④ Electoral bonds cannot be traded for other goods, so they cannot be misused (Ex:- money laundering).

However, concerns regarding electoral bonds undermining transparency and accountability were also raised, because:-

① Disclosure : Political parties are not

Don't write anything this margin

required to disclose Infomation to ECI under sec 33(b) RPA 1951.

② Corporates need not file Income Tax return on purchase of electoral bonds

③ Even foreign companies with substantive ownership over Indian firms can buy electoral bonds
(Under RPA 1951, foreign funding is banned)

* Way forward :-

① Electoral bonds must be brought under ambit of ECI.

② Political parties must voluntarily disclose Information under RTI

③ State funding of election can be examined to curb money menace in politics (Dinesh Goswami committee)

14. The significance of the principle of subsidiarity was well reflected in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Analyse. (250 words) 15
समनुषंगिता (सब्सिडियरिटी) के सिद्धांत का महत्व कोविड-19 महामारी के प्रबंधन में बेहतर रूप से परिलक्षित हुआ है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Principle of subsidiarity, as defined by 2nd ARC implies that any action that can be done better at lower level of govt must be allowed to be done at that level.

Significance of principle of subsidiarity

① It results in decentralization of governance

② Empowerment of local bodies (Ex:- States devolving power to local bodies)

③ Facilitates people's participation in governance (Ex:- Social audit)

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

well reflected in management of covid:-

① Implementation of lockdown: state empowered local bodies to restrict people's movement
(Odisha entrusted sarpanch with power of DM)

② Contact tracing was carried out by community health workers like ASHA, ANGANWADI, etc.

③ Enforcement of quarantine guidelines was undertaken by District collectors

④ States were given flexibility in identifying hotspots and designing locally relevant strategies
(Ex:- During 2nd wave, Union refused to announce nation-wide lockdown)

Don't write anything in this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

(5) Calibrated Unlockdown was carried out according to the economic & health vulnerabilities of respective states.

However, at times, instances of centralization was also noticed:-

(1) Union imposing nation-wide lockdown under DM act 2005 without consulting states.

(2) Restrictions on borrowing powers of state and refusal to compensate for GST loss

Covid-pandemic has thus shown the importance of principle of subsidiarity. In the same spirit, local bodies must be empowered to deal effectively with future pandemic.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

15. Social media has ushered in greater transparency and accountability in governance. But accountability through social media is no alternative to institutional accountability. Analyse. (250 words) 15

सोशल मीडिया ने शासन में अधिक पारदर्शिता और जवाबदेही की शुरुआत की है। लेकिन सोशल मीडिया के माध्यम से जवाबदेही संस्थागत जवाबदेही का विकल्प नहीं है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Social media is regarded as game changer in governance because of its capacity to usher in transparency & accountability.

Social media & transparency :-

① Any instance of corruption can be brought into limelight (Ex :- Sharing videos of officers demanding bribe)

② It promotes access to information (Ex :- Covid guideline on Twitter)

Social media & accountability :-

① It ensures that executive excesses

are strictly dealt with
(Ex:- Video of Tripura DM thrashing public for violating lockdown)

② It makes citizens aware of their rights which empowers them to hold executive accountable
(Ex:- Right to be given drinking water in any hotel for free).

However, accountability through social media has certain challenges and cannot be alternative to institutional accountability, because:-

① Data manipulation is possible on social media
(Ex:- Morphed images of govt officers)

② Digital illiteracy prevents large sections of population from exercising accountability through social media

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

③ Sensitive information such as defence deals cannot be made public. It has to be dealt with institutions like CAG, CVC, etc.

④ Judicial evidence: Recently Supreme Court held that whatsapp chats alone cannot be taken as sufficient evidence

⑤ Expertise: ordinary public on social media lack expertise required to hold government accountable on technical matters like finance accounts, environmental clearances, etc.

Thus, social media has to be used in parallel with robust institutional mechanism to ensure effective accountability.

Don't write anything in this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

16. Although the State has the right incentives and intentions to deliver public services efficiently, its capacity to do so is questionable. Critically discuss in the context of India. (250 words) 15

यद्यपि राज्य के पास सार्वजनिक सेवाओं के कुशलतापूर्वक वितरण हेतु उचित प्रोत्साहन और उद्देश्य विद्यमान हैं, तथापि ऐसा करने की उसकी क्षमता संदिग्ध है। भारत के संदर्भ में समालोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए।

The primary responsibility of a democratic state is citizen-welfare and efficient public service delivery for optimal utilisation of public funds.

Right incentives and intentions :-

① Efficient public service delivery will be rewarded with

= greater citizen compliance with law

- payment of taxes on time

- bring the party in power to power again through voting

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

② State's intentions are also visible in initiatives such as:-

- minimum govt max governance
- adopting Sevottam model
- progressive & innovative platforms like PRAGATI to monitor service delivery
- Usage of DBT to minimise leakage of funds.

However, its capacity to do so is questionable because:-

① Shortage of resources

(India's tax: GDP ratio is 17%, compared to average of 34% of OECD countries).

② Limited manpower

(Ex:- 40% vacancies in High courts)

③ Rigid bureaucratic procedures accused of resulting in red tapism & corruption.

④ Poor infrastructure
(Only 17% of rural households have access to Internet - NSO 2019 report)

Way forward :-

State can enhance its capacity to deliver public services in ways like:-

① Reforming administration
(Ex:- Mission karmayogi for civil servants)

② Ensuring greater tax compliance
(Ex:- IT taxpayer charter)

③ Adopting simplified procedures
(single window clearance).

Then, with the above measures State can effectively fulfill its obligations.

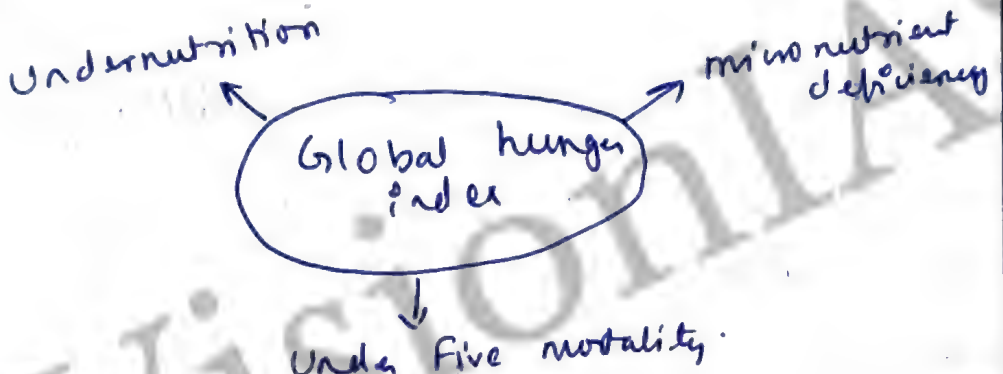
VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. The problem of hunger in India does not lie in food production but various other underlying issues. Discuss in the wake of decline in India's ranking in the Global Hunger Index, 2021. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में हंगर (भूखमरी) की समस्या खाद्य उत्पादन में नहीं बल्कि अन्य कई अंतर्निहित मुद्दों के कारण है। ग्लोबल हंगर इंडेक्स, 2021 में भारत की रैंकिंग में गिरावट के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए।

India's ranking slipped from 106 (2020) to 140 among 156 countries in 2021.



Problem doesn't lie in food production because:-

① India is a food surplus country
(In 2020, food grain production - 296 million tonnes - all time high)

② Sufficient foods stocks in FCI godowns
(Mandated - 70 MT, actual - 100 MT
Economic Survey 2020)

Hence, India's hunger problem lies in other issues such as :-

① Improper utilisation of food
(Ex :- ICAR estimated food losses to wastage at ₹ 92,000 crore in 2013)

② Reaching the targeted beneficiary
(Several poor do not have access to ration cards)

③ Corruption : NCPCR found that many schools do not follow prescribed menu and standards in mid-day meals

④ Nutritional value : Excessive importance to Rice & wheat in diet is resulting in micronutrient deficiencies.
(NFHS 2019-20 : 67% under Five children are anemic).

Don't write anything this margin

(5) Affordability : Frequent fluctuation & food inflation of essential foods like Tomato, Onions, etc adversely impact poor and marginalised.

Ways to address the problem :-

(1) Global Hunger report suggested micronutrient supplements to school children

(2) Expanding PDS to include Pulses & nutricereals

(3) Encouraging investment in post-harvest storage & value-addition infrastructure to minimise food wastage.

(4) Promote crop diversification to reduce disproportionate focus on rice-wheat system

With above measures, India can achieve SDG 2 of ending hunger

VisionIAS

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

18. Democratization of primary healthcare is indispensable for fulfilling the objectives of equitable and comprehensive care in India. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भारत में समान और व्यापक देखभाल के उद्देश्यों को पूरा करने के लिए प्राथमिक स्वास्थ्य देखभाल का लोकतंत्रीकरण अपरिहार्य है। चर्चा कीजिए।

In quality and access to healthcare, India ranks 156th (Economic survey 2021). One of the ways to improve state of healthcare in India is by democratization of primary health care.

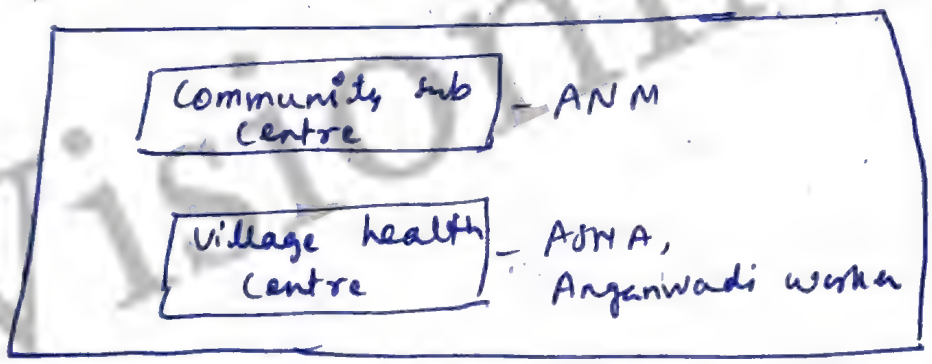


Fig: Components of India's PHC.

Democratization of PHC is indispensible because:-

Equitable

① Costs at PHC level are almost negligable, which makes Health service affordable.

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② It prevents exclusion of weak and marginalized sections.

③ It helps in overcoming geographical barrier in accessing healthcare (Ex:- Out of 4.2 lakh hospital beds, 3.8 lakh are in urban areas - NHP).

④ It can prevent exploitation of poor & illiterate by quacks

Comprehensive :-

① PHC can promote preventive care as well in addition to curative through awareness generation and timely intervention.

② Workers at PHC generally remain well-aware of demography of village they're serving → holistic inputs to policy making

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③ Awareness related to nutritional information, child health, etc can be better generated using PHCs.

Ways to demonstrate PHC :-

① Increase public health expenditure (presently 1.5% GDP. NHP 2017 recommended 3% of GDP)

② Timely recruitment of staff at PHC level to address shortages

③ Better salaries to motivate young doctors to work at PHC

④ Augmenting health infrastructure (beds, ventilators, etc.) at PHC level.

GoI in Budget 2021 announced PM Swasthya Yojana to comprehensively strengthen PHC. This is a step in right direction

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

19. In the context of the evolving discourse on the Indo-Pacific, analyse the factors driving the global shift towards the region. Also, identify India's interests and challenges in this regard. (250 words) 15

हिंद-प्रशांत (इंडो-पसिफिक) पर विकसित हो रहे संवाद के संदर्भ में, इस क्षेत्र की ओर वैश्विक झुकाव को प्रेरित करने वाले कारकों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, इस संबंध में भारत के हितों और चुनौतियों की भी पहचान कीजिए।

Indo-Pacific has emerged as the centre of gravity of International politics. Recently, many countries including EU & USA have brought Indo-Pacific strategy documents.

Factors driving global shift towards Indo-Pacific :-

① Rise of China reflected in its aggressive actions in South China Sea, militarization of oceans, etc.

② Changing balance of power : From Unipolar world (US hegemony), world is moving → multipolarity. Several emerging powers like India, China, Japan belong to Indo-Pacific region.

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③ Economy : Indo-Pacific accounts for 70% of global sea trade.
→ Threat from unilateral actions of countries like China is compelling other countries to secure sea lanes of communication.

④ Indo-pacific region is rich in natural resources like gas hydrates which are regarded as fuel of future

India's interests in the region :-

① To consolidate its position as net security provider

② To protect its economic interests by ensuring freedom of navigation

③ To prevent Chinese dominance and ensure a rules-based order in Indo-Pacific

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

④ To protect PM Investments in the region (Ex:- OPI block near Indonesia)

⑤ To strengthen cooperation with small pacific islands in common threat of climate change (Ex:- Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative).

Challenges to India :-

① Vision of Indo-Pacific: Whereas India consider Indo-Pacific architecture to spawn region from East Africa to American other Quad members like USA have different views.

② Gap in naval capacity between India and China (India has 1 nuclear submarine China has 12)

③ Growing Chinese influence (BRI, string of pearls) and limited economic capacity of India to compete with China

India can secure its interests in Indo-pacific well by partnering with like minded countries (Ex:- Quad).

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

20. India's Afghanistan policy must be based on a clear-eyed understanding of important strategic goals in the region amidst the current regional and global strategic environment. Elaborate. **(250 words) 15**

भारत की अफगानिस्तान नीति वर्तमान क्षेत्रीय और वैश्विक रणनीतिक परिवेश के बीच इस क्षेत्र में महत्वपूर्ण रणनीतिक लक्ष्यों की स्पष्ट समझ पर आधारित होनी चाहिए। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1515)

Name of Candidate	R. Jayasimha Reddy		
Medium Eng./Hindi		Registration Number	714260
Center	Online	Date	20th November, 2021

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
11	15	
12	15	
13	15	
14	15	
15	15	
16	15	
17	15	
18	15	
19	15	
20	15	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न–पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH & HINDI**
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. **All questions are compulsory.**
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न–सह–उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

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EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

1. Explain the meaning of off-budget borrowings and its role in helping the government raise funds for various expenditures. Also, comment on its desirability. (150 words) 10

बजटेतर उधारी (ऑफ-बजट बॉरोइंग्स) का अर्थ स्पष्ट कीजिए और विभिन्न व्ययों के लिए धन जुटाने में सरकार की सहायता करने में इसकी भूमिका का उल्लेख कीजिए। साथ ही, इसकी वांछनीयता पर टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Off-budget borrowings are borrowings made by government agencies (like FCI) in the name of government. Such borrowings do not reflect in fiscal deficit, but are included under government debt.

Role in helping government raise funds:-

① Since they are not included in fiscal deficit calculations, government can raise funds without fear of foreign credit ratings

② It allows government to utilise its own scarce resources on developmental projects while allowing its agencies to raise funds on their own

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③ Such borrowings compensate for shortfall in revenue.

Desirability :-

Off-budget borrowings of GoI touched ₹ 1.5 lakh crore as of 2019-20.

15th Finance comission recommended to not use the off-budget borrowing route, because :-

→ Such borrowings evade parliamentary scrutiny
→ Do not communicate true picture of government's finances.
→ Promotes inefficiency & lack of accountability
→ May threaten financial stability (Ex:- FCI debt touched ₹ 3 lakh crore)

Hence, government should stop resorting to off-budget borrowing.

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2. It is argued that genetically modified food crops are required to ensure food security of India. Examine in view of concerns regarding introduction of GM crops.
(150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारत की खाद्य सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आनुवंशिक रूप से संशोधित खाद्य फसलों की आवश्यकता है। जी.एम. फसलों की शुरूआत से संबंधित चिंताओं के आलोक में परीक्षण कीजिए।

Genetically modified (GM) crops are those where genes are inserted/ modified/ removed to achieve desired characteristic. For example, BT cotton contains genes of 'Bacillus Thourengenis'
↓
resistance against 'pink bollworm'

GM food crops to ensure food security:-

① To increase yield of the crops
② To create widely tolerant varieties. (Ex:- Withstanding high temperature, drought)
③ To create disease-resistant crops
④ To improve nutritional security (Ex:- Golden rice - vitamin A)
⑤ To enhance life-span of produce

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so that it can be stored in godowns for long

Concern regarding GM crops:-

① Ecological concern: Fear of modified genes escaping into nature unintentionally

② Susceptibility of non-target pests which threatens biodiversity

③ Long term consequences of GM crops on human health

④ Fear of increased dependence on developed countries which control the majority of GM food crop research.

Genetic engineering appraisal committee must take into account advantages and concerns of GM crops and frame a national policy to ensure orderly development of GM industry.

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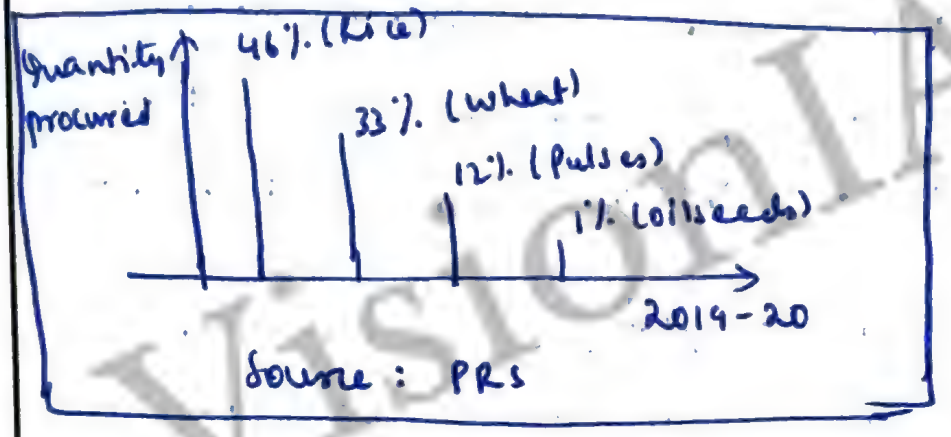
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

3. India's price intervention policies to support its agricultural sector not only create a broken system but also complicate matters related to international trade rules. Critically discuss. **(150 words) 10**

अपने कृषि क्षेत्र का समर्थन करने के लिए भारत की मूल्य हस्तक्षेप नीतियां न केवल एक अप्रभावी व्यवस्था का निर्माण करती हैं बल्कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार नियमों से संबंधित मामलों को भी जटिल बनाती हैं। समालोचनात्मक विवेचना कीजिए।

Government of India announces MSP for 23 crops and out of them, procures rice & wheat for public distribution system.



Price intervention creates broken system :-

① Distortion in cropping pattern in favour of rice-wheat system.

② Disincentives to private sector investment in storage & transport due to stock holding & price orders under Essential Commodities act, 1955

③ Frequent inflation in food price due to mismanagement of government stocks (Ex:- Onion prices)

Complicating International trade rules:-

① Exceeding De-minimis level: Countries like USA frequently complains about India's Subsidy program for breaching limits under WTO Agreement on Agriculture

② Uncertain trade policy, such as ban on export of onions, oilseeds to curb domestic inflation → against International free trading rules.

Thus, several experts suggest that, India must move from price support (MSP) to income support (PM KISAN) to support its farmers while minimising trade distortion.

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4. India has an opportunity to become a leading global food supplier provided it has an efficient supply chain and the right marketing strategies. Elucidate. **(150 words) 10**

भारत के पास एक अग्रणी वैश्विक खाद्य आपूर्तिकर्ता बनने का अवसर है बशर्ते उसके पास एक कुशल आपूर्ति श्रृंखला और सही विपणन रणनीति हो। विशदीकरण कीजिए।

India is 2nd largest producer of food in the world. However, it's share in global food trade is about 3% and is ranked 9th (WTO) due to inefficient supply chain.

Opportunity :-

↳ Largest arable land (51% of land area - ICAR)

↳ 43% workforce dependent on agriculture

↳ Leading producer of milk, 2nd largest producer of eggs, fruits & vegetables, etc

An efficient supply chain and right marketing strategies help in becoming leading food supplier in following ways:

① By Promoting value addition.

(Ex:- Rice → rice biscuits, cakes, etc.)

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② By reducing wastage of food products.
(Ex:- ICAR estimate ₹ 95,000 crore loss due to wastage as per 2013 estimates)

③ By promoting investments from private sector in agro-food processing

④ By promoting crop diversification
(Ex:- lack of cold storage facilities → low cultivation of horticultural crops)

⑤ By connecting farmers with processors & exporters

⑥ By promoting research in product diversification
(Ex:- Indian Millets Research Institute → Ragi biscuits)

Recent government's steps such as allowing 100% FDI in food processing, e-NAM, Kisan SAMPADA yojana will go a long way in promoting efficient supply chains.

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5. Land banks are increasingly gaining prominence in India to encourage land-use efficiency and enable economic growth. In this context, discuss the benefits of a land bank and state the concerns associated with it.

(150 words) 10

भूमि उपयोग दक्षता को प्रोत्साहित करने और आर्थिक वृद्धि को सक्षम बनाने के लिए भूमि बैंक भारत में तेजी से प्रमुखता प्राप्त कर रही हैं। इस संदर्भ में, भूमि बैंक के लाभों तथा इससे संबंधित चिंताओं का उल्लेख कीजिए।

Land banks are online portals (GIS enabled) that help investors to easily acquire clearances for their projects on designated lands.

Benefits of land banks :-

① Removes hurdles in acquiring land clearance (Ex:- GMR exited Udaipur highway project for non-granting land clearance)

② Allows investors to plan their projects well (Ex:- GIS maps → proximity to airports, etc.)

③ Helps in freeing large land parcels with government entities

④ It will promote ease of doing business (India was ranked 154th in acquiring property - WB EODB 202

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⑤ It will improve coordination between various ministries with respect to utilisation of land lying with their respective ministries).

Concerns associated with land banks :-

① A centralised land information database may be prone to cyber attack.

② Federal issues : Since land is state subject, effective implementation of land bank requires coordination from state governments.

③ Absence of documentation of land records may invite disputes.

By resolving the above concerns, the recently setup land bank by DPIIT can boost investments into the country.

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6. Desertification has been described as one of the greatest environmental challenges of our time and climate change is making it worse. Discuss.
(150 words) 10

मरुस्थलीकरण को वर्तमान समय की सबसे बड़ी पर्यावरणीय चुनौतियों में से एक के रूप में वर्णित किया गया है तथा जलवायु परिवर्तन इसे और बदतर बना रहा है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Desertification is the extreme form of land degradation. It implies complete deterioration of soil quality and damage to ecosystem services.

Desertification: great environmental challenge:-

① It poses threat to food security

② It threatens bio-diversity
(Desertification → disappearance of forests)

③ It exacerbates climate change, as land's role as Carbon-Sink gets diminished

④ It enhances soil's vulnerability to erosion, flooding & landslides

⑤ It decreases water percolation capacity resulting in droughts.

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Climate change is making it worse :-

① Increasing surface temperatures and heatwaves
(Ex:- IPCC reported an increase of 1.2°C in average temperature since pre-industrial times)

② Altered vegetation patterns due to climate change contribute to desertification.
(Ex:- lack of dead leaves → low addition of organic matter)

③ Increase in soil microbial activity due to increased temperature → faster depletion of organic matter

Desertification can be countered using sustainable land management practices such as mulching, afforestation, shelter belts, etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. In the context of intellectual property rights, discuss the advantages and disadvantages of releasing projects under an 'Open Source' license.

(150 words) 10

बौद्धिक संपदा अधिकारों के संदर्भ में, 'ओपन सोर्स' लाइसेंस के तहत परियोजनाओं को जारी करने के लाभ और हानियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

'Open source' license implies the product can be used by anyone under the condition that they do not license their product developed using an open source licensed product.

Advantages of 'Open source license' :-

① It makes new innovation accessible to anyone (Ex:- Open source software for research purposes)

② It promotes product development (Ex:- Several applications on playstore are developed using opensource softwares)

③ It promotes cooperation among developer community working on similar products.

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④ It promotes development of cost-effective solutions (Ex:- cheap Heart rate monitor using open source technology)

⑤ It enables easy sharing of innovations across border without worry of IP-enforcement laws.

Disadvantages :-

① Lack of accountability : Generally software (open source) contain privacy issues

② It may result in stealing of innovations

(Ex:- A → Patented product —slight changes→ Open source version

Thus, open source is like a double-edged sword. There is need for a global convention on dealing with open source licenses to prevent misuse.

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8. "Indian space sector has been dominated by a single umbrella of government and government institutions." In light of the statement, discuss the significance of Indian Space Association in providing an impetus to space technology in India. (150 words) 10

"भारतीय अंतरिक्ष क्षेत्रक पर सरकार की एकमात्र संस्था का प्रभुत्व रहा है।" इस कथन के आलोक में, भारत में अंतरिक्ष प्रौद्योगिकी को प्रोत्साहन प्रदान करने में भारतीय अंतरिक्ष संघ के महत्व की विवेचना कीजिए।

Indian space sector is expected to reach value of $ 250 billion by 2025 (Nasscom study).

However, dominance of single umbrella of government entities (ISRO) poses following challenges like:-

→ Disincentive for private sector to make investments

→ Low research in cutting-edge technologies to gain edge over competetors

→ Overburdening of ISRO < research activities / Commercial activities (Eg- launch of Cartosat, etc)

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Indian space Association

Recently, prime minister gave call for Indian space association as an umbrella body that brings together all private players in space. It can help in

- Promoting private investment in space
- Improve investor confidence
- Well-informed policy making addressing concerns of private players
- Freeing up of resources of ISRO
- Promoting space exports (Ex- launch of small satellites)

Success of private space entities like SPACEX (USA) shows that private sector in India can play an important role in promoting competitiveness of India's space sector. Indian space association can help achieve this.

Don't write anything this margin
(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

9. Man and machine both have an important role in national security and making urban areas secure. In this context, discuss how technology is a major stakeholder in addressing the internal security challenges of India. **(150 words) 10**

राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा और शहरी क्षेत्रों को सुरक्षित बनाने में मानव और मशीन दोनों की महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका है। इस संदर्भ में, चर्चा कीजिए कि प्रौद्योगिकी किस प्रकार भारत की आंतरिक सुरक्षा चुनौतियों से निपटने में एक प्रमुख हितधारक है।

Technology is a double-edged sword, which can greatly enhance vulnerability (or) security of a country

Technology : addressing Internal security challenges

① Surveillance using technologies like AI, UAV to keep track of terrorist activities.

② Fast dissemination of information in time of emergency through medium like whatsapp

③ Enhancing border security through LiDAR, Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT), etc.

④ Smart integrated border checkpoints

Don't write anything in margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

can help in reducing transnational organized crime (Ex:- Drug trafficking)

⑤ Mobile jammer can be used to block communication between terrorists (Ex:- 26/11 mumbai attacks)

⑥ Modernization of police force using integrated control rooms with state of the art technologies

Thus, technology can significantly improve India's national security. However, its prevent its misuse, it must be ensured that it doesn't enter wrong hands.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. National Security Guard (NSG) has emerged as a formidable force equipped to handle various manifestations of terrorism. Discuss the mandate and achievements of this force. **(150 words) 10**

राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा गार्ड (NSG) एक पराक्रमी बल के रूप में उभरा है जो आतंकवाद के विभिन्न रूपों से निपटने के लिए सुसज्जित है। इस बल के अधिदेश और उपलब्धियों की विवेचना कीजिए।

National security Guard played a crucial role in neutralising terrorists during 26/11 mumbai attacks.

Mandate of NSG :-

① To specialize in various anti-terror operations like diffusing bombs, etc.

② To support state police in counter-terrorism operations.

③ To inculcate best practices in counter terror operations from across the world

④ To undertake mock-drills to keep citizens & state police force aware of Do's & Don't's in case of crisis.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Achievements

① During 2010, Delhi Cobalt-60 diffusal ~~acid~~ incident, NSG's expertise played a crucial role.

② It has proven itself as one of the top most security agencies across the world in counter-terror operation

③ It even gives training to security forces in neighbourhood such as Bangladesh

Thus, NSG is like a jewel in the crown of India's terror preparedness.

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(इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

11. What do you understand by asset monetisation? Why is it needed in India? In this context, discuss the issues that need to be addressed for the National Monetisation Pipeline to succeed. (250 words) 15

परिसंपत्ति मुद्रीकरण से आप क्या समझते हैं? भारत में इसकी आवश्यकता क्यों है? इस संदर्भ में, उन मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिन्हें राष्ट्रीय मुद्रीकरण पाइपलाइन के सफल होने के लिए समाधान करने की आवश्यकता है।

Asset monetisation implies converting an asset into financial resource through selling or leasing.

For example, NHAI leases highways to private parties for a period of 50 years, in return for lumpsum amount initially.

Need for asset monetisation in India:

① To productively utilise large number of assets lying idle.
(Ex:- Land with Indian Railways)

② To augment government's financial resources.
(Ex:- National asset monetisation pipeline is expected to generate ₹ 20,000 crore).

(3) To fund government's social sector schemes

(4) To channelize resources towards infrastructure creation.

(Ex:- Task force on NIP estimates that India needs to spend ₹ 1.4 trillion on infrastructure by 2025 to achieve 5 trillion economy)

(5) To bring about efficiency in management of government assets

(Ex:- Govt run ports → Private hands
↓
reduced turnaround time)

In this context, government has unveiled ambitious National Monetization Pipeline comprising of assets like -

→ Highways

→ Ports

→ Power distribution lines, etc.

to enhance capital expenditure.

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Issues to be addressed :-

① Terms of contract must clearly specify the expected quality standards for asset maintainance.

(Ex:- Newly inaugurated public road potholes ← private hands
↓
(This must be avoided).

② Concern of national security associated with private sector involvement in critical infrastructure like Discom lines

③ Prices quoted should be realistic and must not stretch private sector finances.

④ Dispute adjudication with respect to monetisation of assets (Vijay Kelkar committee)

⑤ Resources generated from monetisation must be used only for capital formation

National Monetisation pipeline can play an important role in generation resources to make India atmanirbhar

12. What is social stock exchange (SSE)? Discuss the need for setting up of SSEs and key challenges in their effective implementation. (250 words) 15
सोशल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज (SSE) क्या है? SSEs की स्थापना की आवश्यकता और उनके प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन में विद्यमान प्रमुख चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Social Stock Exchanges (SSE) are platforms where shares of companies involved in social sector (education, health, etc.) are listed so that impact investors can invest in them.

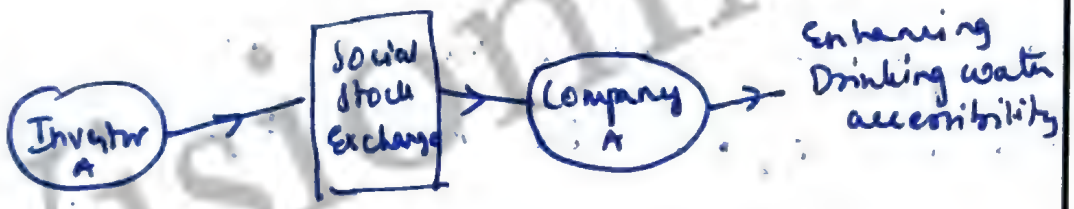

Fig: Working of social stock exchange

Need for setting up SSE :-

① Lack of sufficient flow of funds to companies involved in social sector

② To attract investment in social service. (India's current spending on health is only 1.3% of GDP. NHP 2017 envisages 3% GDP)

Don't write anything in margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

③ To attain twin goals of economic development & inclusive growth.

④ To encourage innovation in areas of public health, sanitation, education, etc.

⑤ To make Indian an attractive destination for foreign impact investment funds (Ex:- Bill & Melinda gates fund)

⑥ To bring foreign technology and expertise to improve India's social outcome (Ex:- Israel recycles 90% of water → required to solve India's water crisis)

⑦ To encourage startups in the field social development.

In this context, recent SEBI's move to issue guidelines regarding

SSE is a step in right direction.

However, certain challenges remain :-

① Developing framework to evaluate the impact of projects.
(Ex:- Investment → education enterprise → Evaluate learning outcome)

② To ensure transparency and accountability in fund utilisation.

③ To ensure that the platform is not misused by for-profit enterprises

④ Policy uncertainity with respect to SSE must be removed to attract investments.

⑤ Effective coordination among various govt's ministries like environment, health, education, etc.

Following the international success, SSE offers immense potential in India.

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13. In the context of India, highlight the importance of agriculture extension. What are the challenges faced in provisioning of agriculture extension services? How does the National Mission on Agricultural Extension & Technology (NMAET) address these issues? **(250 words) 15**

भारत के संदर्भ में, कृषि विस्तार के महत्व पर प्रकाश डालिए। कृषि विस्तार सेवाओं के प्रावधान में सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियां कौन-सी हैं? कृषि विस्तार और प्रौद्योगिकी पर राष्ट्रीय मिशन (NMAET) इन मुद्दों का कैसे समाधान करता है?

Agriculture extension involves services offered to farmers with respect to latest technologies, inputs, weather advisories, and so on.

Need for agriculture extension :-

→ To ensure sustainable farming (Minimise water / fertilisers overuse)

→ To ensure adaptation of latest technologies (Ex:- Drum seeder for sowing)

→ To educate farmers about best practices

→ To enhance farmer's incomes.

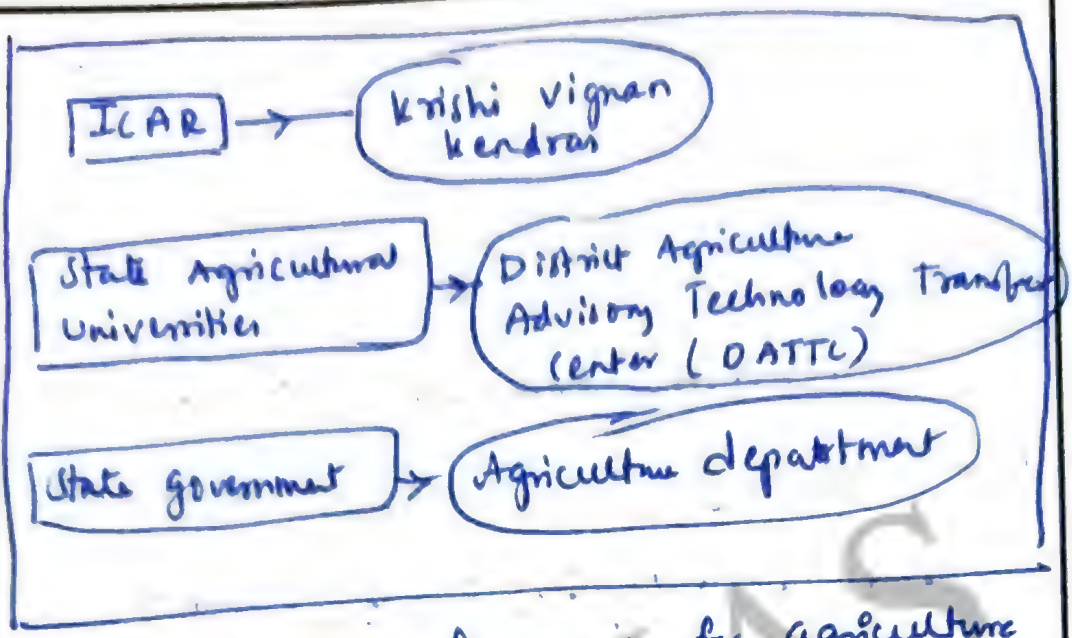

Fig: Institutional framework for agriculture extention In India.

Challenges in agriculture extension :-

① Lack of sufficient number of staff in KVKs & DATTCs.

② Lack of awarenen among farmers about extention agencies.

③ Lack of connectivity & digital Infra (smartphones) to avail extention services.

④ Apathy among officials about farmers concerns

⑤ Problem of corruption among officials. (Ex:- Diverting demonstration technologies

NMAET address these challenges in following ways :-

① To augment manpower, NMAET envisages bridge courses & training programs in agriculture universities.

② Clear targets to public officials about dissemination of agri-related information

③ Crop-specific information pamphlets for easily understanding of farmer

④ Mandatory use of regional languages in TV & radio broadcasts.

⑤ Toll-free helpline numbers in every state to ensure accessibility to farmers.

⑥ Development of model villages so that farmers can emulate best practices.

Thus, NMAET can play significant role in achieving target of doubling farmer's income.

14. Clearly delineate the 'employment problem' that India currently faces. Also, explain the fundamental reasons behind existence of this problem. (250 words) 15

भारत वर्तमान समय में जिस 'रोजगार समस्या' का सामना कर रहा है, उसे स्पष्ट रूप से निरूपित कीजिए। साथ ही, इस समस्या के अस्तित्व के मूल कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए।

According to PLFS 2017-18 data, Unemployment rate in India is 6.1%, a 25 year high.

According to a McKinsey report, India needs to generate 90 million jobs over next decade to provide employment to its bourgeoning workforce. But, actual number of jobs generated are far too less.

Employment problem India faces :-

① Large workforce (59.5% of population is in working age 15-59 years : NITI Aayog), but lack of enough jobs.

② Disguised unemployment : Agriculture

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

accounts for 17.8% of GDP, but has 43% of workforce. (PLFS 2018-19)

③ Informal Sector: 90% of workforce is in informal sector with lack of access to social security (PLFS 2018-19)

Fundamental reasons behind the problem:-

① Nature of growth: Post 1991 reforms, economic growth was led by service-sector (accounts for 54% of GDP) which employs only a small fraction of population.

② Skill mismatch: 51% of graduated youth were found unemployable (All India Skills report 2021)

③ Lack of access to resources to get upskilled
(Ex:- Only 8.9% of the workforce is formally trained - Economic Survey 2018-19).

④ High job to investment ratio. Some estimates suggest ₹ 1 crore generates only 4 jobs in India.

⑤ Government regulation: Complexity in labour laws made share of contractual workers increase from 26% (2011-12) to 39% (2018-19) (Economic Survey 2020)

⑥ Inequalities: Interstate & intrastate inequalities have resulted in bottom rung population to miss out on employment opportunities.

To reap demographic dividend, India must solve employment problem. For this, recent steps like consolidation of labour codes, ease of doing business reforms, etc. are steps in right direction.

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15. Although steps have been taken for integrating the dispersed logistics activities of maritime trade, much more needs to be done to make India a maritime powerhouse. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

हालांकि समुद्री व्यापार की विखंडित लॉजिस्टिक गतिविधियों को एकीकृत करने के लिए विभिन्न कदम उठाए गए हैं, फिर भी भारत को एक समुद्री पावरहाउस बनाने के लिए और भी बहुत कुछ किए जाने की आवश्यकता है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India has a natural advantage of 7,500 km long coastline and 14,500 km long navigable inland wataways. However, maritime trade remains poor.

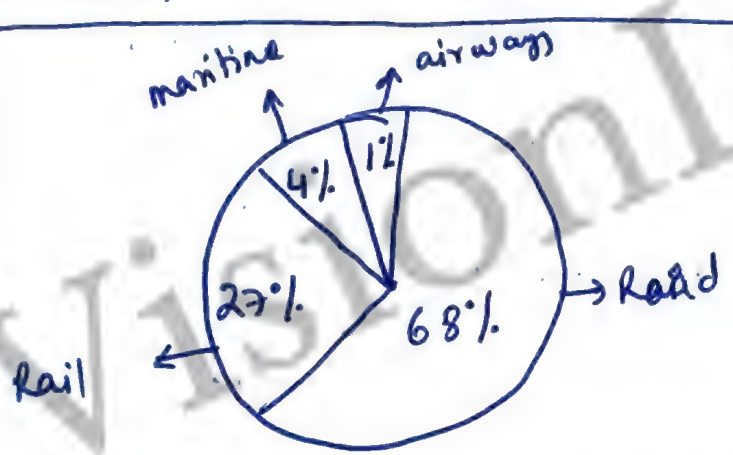

Fig: Modal share in freight transport (NITI Ayog)

Recent steps taken to integrate maritime sector :-

① SAGARMALA to achieve port-led economic growth.

② Coastal connectivity scheme to enhance last mile connectivity with ports.

③ Jal vikas marg project to augment capacity of national waterways 1

④ Multimodal logistics parks to seamlessly integrate various modes of transport (Ex:- Jhinghopa logistics park in Assam).

⑤ Major port authorities bill to grant more autonomy to major ports.

⑥ Inter-linking of rivers (Ex:- Ken - Betwa) to ensure sufficient water for freight movement

However, more needs to be done such as:-

① Connecting ports with Industrial corridors (Ex:- Chennai - vishakapatnam corridor)

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② Repurpurposing large multipurpose dams to support Inland navigation.

③ Enhancing last-mile connectivity with ports

④ Involving private sector in port-led development (Ex:- ~~Integrated Coach fact~~ Mazagon Dock limited, mumbai).

⑤ Granting Infrastructure status to maritime sector to enhance flow of credit

A well-developed maritime sector will significantly drive down logistics cost. Currently, logistics account for 18% cost in India, whereas 12% in China (Economic survey 2020).

Hence, above measures will improve India's trade competitiveness.

16. Accounting for natural capital and ecosystem services is crucial to understand the link between the economy and environment. Discuss with specific references to India's initiatives in this regard. **(250 words) 15**

अर्थव्यवस्था और पर्यावरण के मध्य संबंध को समझने के लिए प्राकृतिक पूंजी और पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र सेवाओं के लिए लेखांकन महत्वपूर्ण है। इस संबंध में भारत द्वारा की गयी पहलों के विशिष्ट संदर्भ के साथ चर्चा कीजिए।

Nature capital includes stock of nature's reserves such as rivers, forests, wetlands, etc. Ecosystem services are the service rendered by ecosystem.

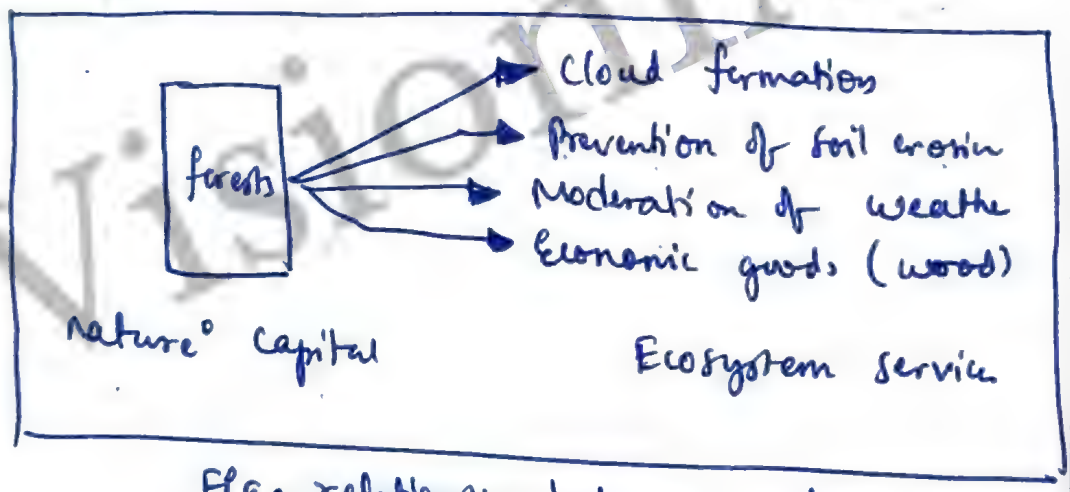

Fig: relationship between nature capital & ecosystem service.

Accounting for nature capital & ecosystem service: link for understanding relation between economy & environment :-

① Quantification of utilisation of

Don't wr anything margin (इस भाग कुछ ना लि

nature capital like water for industrial use helps in estimating link between environment & economy.

② Sustainable development : It helps in balancing economic & environmental needs (Ex:- Cutting down forest to setup hydropower project)

③ It helps in measuring environmental costs of economic development

(Ex:- Dumping waste → water → eutrophication → Death of fishes)

④ It helps in designing more sustainable indicator of growth (Ex:- Happyness Index - Bhutan)

Recent initiatives taken by India :-

① SDG India index by NITI Aayog.
It includes environment component (SDG 14 - life below water)

② Ministry of statistics developed an accounting framework to estimate value of nature's capital (SVCAVES)

③ EIA under Environment protection act, 1986 mandates environmental impact assessment of large projects like mines.

Thus, India had taken several steps to integrate economy & environmental needs to achieve sustainable development.

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17. Rapid and unplanned urbanisation accompanied by population growth have increased both the risk and impact of natural disasters. Discuss the statement along with adequate measures to address the relevant concerns in India.
(250 words) 15

जनसंख्या वृद्धि के साथ-साथ तीव्र और अनियोजित शहरीकरण ने प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के जोखिम और प्रभाव दोनों को बढ़ा दिया है। भारत में विद्यमान प्रासंगिक चिंताओं के निवारण हेतु यथोचित उपायों के साथ इस कथन की व्याख्या कीजिए।

By 2030, cities in India will account for 40% of total population (NITI Aayog). However, the cities are not yet ready to accomodate such large population, resulting in unplanned urbanisation.

Unplanned urbanisation : risk of natural disasters

① Unscientific constructions like tall buildings which are prone to Earthquakes.

② Absence of fire safety measures in dense urban colonies
(Ex :- Delhi - urban fire disaster)

③ Urban heat island effect is contributing

to perceived instances such as cloudburst

④ Encroachment to flood channels and deforestation are amplifying risks of urban floods
(Ex:- Recent Hyderabad floods)

⑤ Inadequate waste disposals → threat of biological disaster

Unplanned urbanisation: impact of disasters

① High population density → chances of high casualities

② As cities are centers of economic activity, disasters will have debilitating impact on economy.

③ Presence of large number of poor in cities (slums) will exacerbate social inequalities

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In case of disaster.

Measures to address the concerns :-

① Strict enforcement of BIS building codes

② Incorporating concept of rain gardens while designing public parks (NDMA guidelines on Urban floods)

③ Collecting data with respect to patterns of migration → informed policy making

④ Easing floor space norms to facilitate construction of tall buildings, (NITI Aayog) which will solve problem of lack of shelter & proliferation of slums.

⑤ Redesigning drainage channels to ensure quick discharge of rain water.

~~Sustainable~~ Disaster risk reduction should be made central to long term planning to ensure sustainable cities.

18. National Hydrogen Mission can be a game changer for India's rising energy demands. Comment. (250 words) 15
भारत की बढ़ती ऊर्जा मांगों के लिए राष्ट्रीय हाइड्रोजन मिशन एक गेम चेंजर हो सकता है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Government, in Budget 2021 announced national hydrogen mission with an overlay of ₹ 8,000 crore.

Components of Hydrogen mission:-

① Promoting R&D in generating electricity from green hydrogen.

renewable energy → water (electrolysis) → H_2 (Green hydrogen), O_2

② Designing new applications for green hydrogen (Ex:- Usage in fertiliser industry, domestic heating, etc.)

③ Promote private sector participation in green hydrogen sector.

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Gamechanger for India's rising energy needs:-

① Reduce imports : India currently imports 85% of crude oil for its energy needs.

② Clear energy : As burning H_2 doesn't emit pollutants, it can be promoted as clean energy to solve India's air pollution (Delhi) problem.

③ Paris targets : It helps India achieve its INDC target of having 40% installed electricity capacity from non-fossil fuel sources

④ Remote areas : Hydrogen can be used as energy in areas without electricity lines.

⑤ Space sector energy needs can also be met using Hydrogen.

⑥ It gives impetus to fertilisers industries like Urea, which consume H_2 as input.

However, despite several advantages, there are certain challenges with Hydrogen as energy:-

① Storage : Hydrogen needs to be stored at -253°c which makes its distribution difficult

② Hydrogen is highly explosive in nature, so chance of accidents (industrial)

③ Question mark over utility of Hydrogen as fuel in the future era presumed to be dominated by electric vehicles

Despite the above concerns, the national hydrogen mission will give a much needed boost to research in application & development of Hydrogen, which may find answer to India's rising energy demand.

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19. Despite geo-strategic instability of its region and a keen awareness of the cyber threat it faces, India has made only 'modest progress' in developing its policy and doctrine for cyberspace security. Critically examine.
(250 words) 15

अपने क्षेत्र की भू-रणनीतिक अस्थिरता और इसके समक्ष विद्यमान साइबर खतरों के संबंध में व्यापक जागरूकता के बावजूद, भारत ने साइबरस्पेस सुरक्षा के लिए अपनी नीति और सिद्धांत विकसित करने में केवल 'साधारण प्रगति' की है। समालोचनात्मक परीक्षण कीजिए।

According to Internet crime report 2021, India rank 3rd in top 20 victims of cybercrime.

Cyber threat India faces :-

① Cyber terrorism such as malware attack on kudankulam power plant

② Hybrid warfare (Ex:- Zhenhua data leak orchestrated by China against India

③ Cyber crimes such as phishing, hacking (NCRB 2019 data points to 63.5% increase in cybercrimes compared to 2018)

④ Misuse of social media by extremist organisations like LeT to radicalize youth

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(5) Attempts to break down social fabric by instigating communalism through fake news
(Ex:- Attack against North Eastern people in Bangalore).

(6) Possible interference in electoral process (Ex:- Cambridge analytica case in US)

Progress made in cybersecurity policy

(1) India recently issued a Telecom directive for private sector to choose from a verified list of vendors. (Ex:- India banned Huawei)

(2) India setup new post of national cybersecurity coordinator under PM to evolve a unified cybersecurity policy

(3) India has put up institutional framework (CERT-In, NCCCC, Cyber swachata kendra)

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to implement cybersecurity policy

Shortcomings in India's preparedness :-

① Lack of a national level upto date cybersecurity policy

② Lack of clarity on roles of various organisations involved in cybersecurity

③ Huge dependence on foreign vendors for Telecom hardware (TRAI estimates, India imports ₹ 1.3 trillion hardware, mostly from China)

④ Some estimates report that more than 50% of government organisations do not lack a cybersecurity strategy

As cybersecurity is a dynamic domain, India's policies & actions must keep pace according to the emerging threats.

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20. Developmental interventions alone cannot play a defining role in the resolution of existing and protracted internal conflicts in various parts of India within a reasonable time frame. Discuss. **(250 words) 15**

भारत के विभिन्न हिस्सों में व्याप्त और दीर्घकाल से जारी आंतरिक संघर्षों को उचित समय सीमा के भीतर हल करने में केवल विकासात्मक हस्तक्षेप एक निर्णायक भूमिका नहीं निभा सकते हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

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